

Out for revenge
Women's tennis heads to CAA tournament in search of 18th championship in 21 years.
See WOMEN page 12



Get dirty for charity
Tri-Delt Tug-o-War to raise money for St. Jude's tomorrow on the intramural field.
See TUG-O-WAR page 7

The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary ♦ Est. 1911

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FLATHATNEWS.COM

Tech details emerge

Virginia Tech shooter Cho Seung-Hui was described as a troubled, depressed 'loner'

BY CHASE JOHNSON
FLAT HAT EXECUTIVE EDITOR

New details about the perpetrator of the worst shooting in U.S. history are emerging as the Virginia Tech community begins the long process of healing from the massacre that claimed the lives of 33 Virginia Tech students and faculty Monday.

Cho Seung-Hui, a 23-year-old senior English major at Tech, shot and killed two people in West Ambler Johnston Hall, a dormitory, around 7:15 a.m. About two hours later, Cho killed 30 more across campus in Norris Hall, an academic building before taking his own life.

Nearly two-and-a-half days later, NBC News in New York received a package with a return address in Blacksburg, Va. from a sender identified as "A. Ishmael". The package was postmarked at 9:01 a.m., about 15 minutes before the second attack in Norris Hall. The contents were described by NBC as a "multimedia manifesto," and included 43 photographs (most of which showed Cho brandishing weapons), one PDF file featuring a vague, 1,800-word rant, two Word document drafts and 28 video clips.

NBC forwarded the package to police, but broadcasted select files on the news Wednesday night amidst criticism that disseminating the material was insensitive.

Cho encouraged to seek counseling

According to CNN, classmates and teachers described Cho as a "loner" who seemed troubled and depressed.

Lucinda Roy, the former chairwoman of the English department, said that one of Cho's creative writing professors was concerned about the dark nature of Cho's writings.

Roy was so disturbed by the content of the writings that she felt compelled to remove Cho from the class and bring the writings to the attention of the police and school counselors. "The threats seemed to be underneath the surface," she said. "They were not explicit and that was the difficulty the police had [in forcing him to seek help]."

See DETAILS page 3

MOORNING A TRAGEDY



JULIA SCHAUMBURG (TOP), CASEY SCULLY (BOTTOM) ♦ THE FLAT HAT
Monday's shooting at Virginia Tech affected many at the College. (Top) Banners hang from the Crim Dell bridge to show support for those who died. (Bottom) Students gather in front of the Wren Building Monday night for a candlelight vigil.

Campus groups respond

Students react to the tragedy with demonstrations of support for Virginia Tech

BY ALINA TODOR
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

As the Virginia Tech community recoils from Monday's tragic shooting, college communities nationwide are showing their support.

Reacting to the tragedy, the College's Student Assembly quickly organized a candlelight vigil. Students gathered in the Wren courtyard Monday night to listen to College President Gene Nichol and Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler speak.

Sophomores Zach Pilchen and Valerie Hopkins, the newly inaugurated president and vice president of the Student Assembly, began the vigil while candles were being distributed among students.

In another show of support, sophomores Katie McCown and Christina Hoffman, as well as senior Mike Morrissey, created a banner for students to sign that will be sent to Virginia Tech.

"We couldn't just sit there without doing something to help relay our thoughts and sympathies to Tech while concurrently giving the students here an outlet," McCown said.

The three students communicated their idea to former SA president Ryan Scofield and other members of the student government and decided to unveil the banner at the vigil service Monday.

The original six-foot-long banner has now been extended because of a huge student reception, and it now extends about 36 feet, McCown said.

"When we came up with the idea for the banner, it was mostly a way to help students send their thoughts and prayers to Tech," McCown said. "The banner has really helped foster unity."

Scofield said that he hoped that the student-organized responses "provide an outlet to express their grief and to experience the overwhelming sense of community that means so much to all of us here at the College."

"Having dealt with feelings of grief

See GRIEVES page 3

BOV ups tuition rates

BY BRIAN MAHONEY
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

Yesterday, the College's Board of Visitors approved increases in undergraduate tuition for both in-state and out-of-state students.

Tuition and fees for in-state students — currently \$8,490 — will increase 8.5 percent, to \$9,210. Non-Virginian students, who paid \$25,048 this year, should expect an increase of 7.5 percent, totaling \$26,934.

With room and board included, in-state undergraduates will pay a total cost of \$16,595, a 7.6 percent increase from this year's \$15,422. Out-of-state students will pay \$34,319, a 7.3 percent increase from this year's \$31,980.

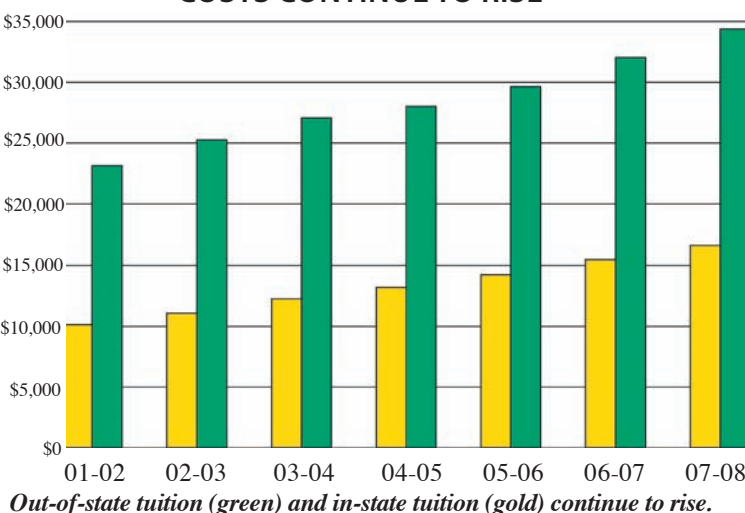
The percent increase in tuition and fees is less than last year's in-

crease of 9 and 8.2 percent for in-state and out-of-state students, respectively. The tuition hike follows a national trend among universities, with most of the College's peer insti-

tutions — including public colleges such as the University of Virginia and private institutions such as

See BOV page 5

COSTS CONTINUE TO RISE



College ready for crisis

The College's crisis management team is working to increase emergency preparedness

BY MORGAN FIGA
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

According to Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler, the College has a crisis management team with a set series of response procedures in the event of an emergency on campus. Prior to the shootings Monday at Virginia Tech, the crisis management team was taking steps to improve communication with students in the event of an emergency.

"We are really excited about implementing a new system about getting the word out to students," Sadler said. "We're planning a system of e-mail communication with voicemail messages as back up."

Sadler said that the crisis management team is in the process of discussing and completing a contract that would give the College new message transmis-

sion technology. The system would allow, in the event of a crisis, an individual to send out messages to students through voicemail, text messaging and e-mail. The messages would all go out to everyone at the same time.

"The system is not like a computerized e-mail system," he said. "The messages to students would go out simultaneously."

He said that the problem with sending messages through e-mail is that it can take two or three hours for the information to reach students.

In addition to being able to send out three different messages simultaneously, the system would be able to track if students did not answer their room phones or if the messages did not get through.

Sadler said that he hoped within a few days the College would have a contract to speed up the implementation of this service. He said he was unsure of when the system would be in place, but he talked to Information Technology Wednesday morning and is hoping to have negotiations finished soon.

See EMERGENCY page 5

NEWSINSIGHT

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The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Corrections

The News article “Student Assembly election winners inaugurated in Wren” incorrectly said that the SA Inauguration took place in the Great Hall of the Wren Building. It happened in the Wren Chapel.

An article Tuesday on page 4 said that junior Matt Brown can appeal a Student Assembly Review Board decision. Only the Elections Commission can appeal the decision.

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Weather

Friday  High 66° Low 42°	Saturday  High 76° Low 50°	Sunday  High 81° Low 56°
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Source: www.weather.com

Quote of the Week

“If I don’t do anything this year, I am a scumbag.”

— Sophomore senator Sean Sheppard on the potential of his senate performance next year.

See **SHEPPARD** page 4

“What happens in America when coming to college costs over \$20,000 for a working family?”

— BOV member Jeffery McWaters on the tuition increase

See **INCREASE** page 1

News in Brief

Restaurants to provide text messaging service

Campusfood.com, an online network of restaurants, has given customers the ability to text message orders to affiliated restaurants. College students will be able to text orders to Chanello’s Pizza, Mama Mia’s, Mr. Liu’s Chinese Restaurant, Pizza Hut, Sal’s by Victor and Short Stop Deli.

— by Alexandra Cochrane

College starts dual-enrollment program

The College has forged an agreement with Northern Virginia Community College to create a dual-enrollment program. This program, which is similar to arrangements that NVCC has made with U.Va., allows NVCC students to continue their education. If they have maintained the required GPA in their College courses, the students are “guaranteed admission in order to pursue their bachelor’s degree,” according to W&M News.

— by Kara Starr

By the Numbers

8.5 percent

The amount that tuition and fees for in-state students will increase. Virginia students will pay \$9,210. Tuition for out-of-state students will increase 7.5 percent to \$26,939.

\$80,000

The most that UCAB could end up paying to bring My Chemical Romance and Muse. Ticket sales are expected to contribute toward the \$80,000 payment, but they have been lagging.

“While we already have a larger crowd than we’ve had for past concerts, all parties are losing money at this point due to the low amount of ticket sales,” UCAB Executive Director Lizzi Anthony told The Flat Hat. “If student ticket sales do not increase greatly in the next few weeks, the chance we will be able to bring a concert of this caliber to William and Mary again is slim.”

27 percent

The estimated proportion of tickets sold to students for the upcoming concert, according to UCAB. 1,300 have been sold to students while around 3,500 were bought by the general public.

38 percent

The proportion of Americans who have ever smoked marijuana, according to The Washington Times.

— by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO • DARDEN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS - UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

The Batten building at the U.Va. business school, named after \$100 million donor Frank Batten.

BEYOND THE BURG

U.Va. receives largest donation in its history

Former William and Mary BOV member gives \$100 million

By PIERRE DUMONT
THE FLAT HAT

Former College Board of Visitors member Frank Batten donated \$100 million to the University of Virginia, President John T. Casteen III, announced Thursday, April 12.

The donation, the largest in U.Va.’s history, will fund the establishment of a school of leadership and public policy.

The school, named the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, has been in the planning stages for several years, according to a U.Va. Today article. Once completed, the school will provide leadership training, comprehensive research opportunities on public issues and training through public outreach programs.

“[The donation] has a kind of influence by way of implication for what our university will be in the future, and that influence is profound,” Casteen said. “The Frank Batten School of Leader-

ship and Public Policy will enable scholars, students, visitors, others who come here to address critical policy issues that affect Virginia, the nation and the world.”

The school is expected to enroll approximately 390 students, 225 from the undergraduate community and 165 from the graduate community. Although relatively small in size, the school will have 18 full-time faculty members and its own dean. It is slated to open in the fall of 2009.

Batten, a Norfolk native, earned his undergraduate degree at U.Va. before pursuing an MBA at Harvard University. He became chairman and CEO of Landmark Communications in 1967.

He also worked as chairman of The Associated Press from 1982 to 1987, and served as the first rector of Old Dominion University. He served as a BOV member for the College and received an honorary degree in 1996.

Batten has contributed greatly

to the College. According to the College’s Office of University Relations website, he established the Batten Foundation Undergraduate Research Scholarship in 1992. He also funded an endowment for the MBA program at the College’s Mason School of Business.

“This is wonderful news for the university,” U.Va. Provost Gene Block said. “This is a program that enjoys broad support from faculty, administration, deans, and we believe it will become one of the leading programs in the United States to train the next generation of leaders for the public sector.”

Batten echoed these thoughts. “Never has there been a greater need for the university’s most important product: enlightened and ethical leaders who leave the grounds prepared for public life — in their communities, in their professions, in the world at large,” he said. “I hope and expect that this new school will flourish at the university.”

STREET BEAT

How do you feel about security on campus?



I really don’t see a lot of police officers unless they’re trying to bust me for drinking.

James Van Meter, sophomore



I feel campus police do a good job, especially patrolling the area at night.

Samantha Proffitt, junior



I feel like Williamsburg is one of the safest places: the tourists are too clueless to be sinister.

Alex Schulte, freshman



I’m a little worried about people letting others into their dorms.

Kayla Anders, sophomore

— photos and interviews by Virginia Newton

CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

April 10 to April 17

Tuesday, April 10 — A burglary was reported at the Matoaka construction site. The construction manager reported stolen tools and a break-in of the electrical room. **1**

— An officer was dispatched to the parking garage to investigate a report of a stolen license plate with an estimated value of \$25. **2**

Wednesday, April 11 — A female student

in Jamestown reported receiving a suspicious e-mail. The incident was related to four other cases and was turned over to investigators. **3**

Thursday, April 12 — A projector was stolen from Tucker Hall. The investigating officer estimated its worth at \$1,500. **4**

— Vandalism was reported for a broken theater sign at PBK with an approximate value of \$40. **5**

— Vandalism was reported by an RA, who said he had found a screen in Preston that had

been spray-painted. An officer who came to the scene estimated damage of \$30. **6**

— A staff member reported damage to her parked vehicle at the Rec Center. Investigating officer estimated the damage at \$1,500. **7**

— A caller from Chandler Hall reported that two white males stole her doormat. Estimated cost was \$20, but then student called back stating the item was found. **8**

Friday, April 13 — A noise complaint was reported in Jamestown North, but by the time an officer arrived at Jamestown all was quiet. **3**

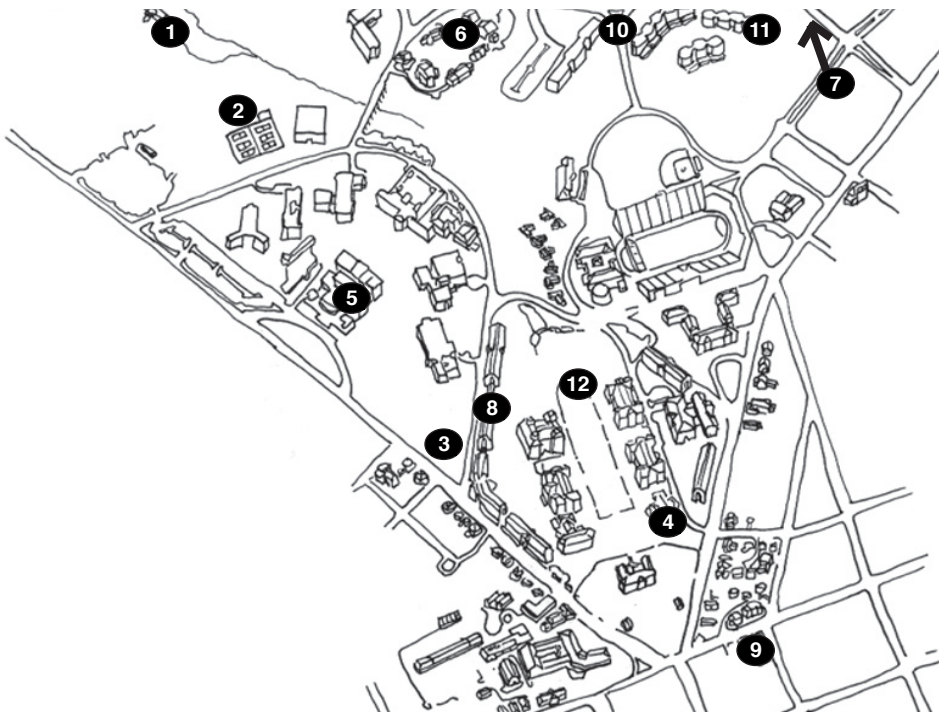
— A noise complaint was reported by a Williamsburg police officer who heard loud music coming from Brown Hall. The police officer investigating the incident asked that the music be terminated. **9**

Saturday, April 14 — A bus driver reported three subjects walking toward the Commons; one was intoxicated. An officer was dispatched, who arrested the student for being drunk in public and underage possession. **10**

— A student was arrested for being drunk in public near William and Mary Hall. A bond hearing was refused due to the behavior of the subject. **11**

— Vandalism was reported in the Sunken Garden. A Delta Phi brother stated that one of his brothers noticed spray paint on the grass in the Sunken Garden near the Crim Dell. The spray paint included an expletive directed at Delta Phi. A unit was dispatched. **12**

— compiled by Angela Cota



VT

THE COLLEGE REMEMBERS

WM

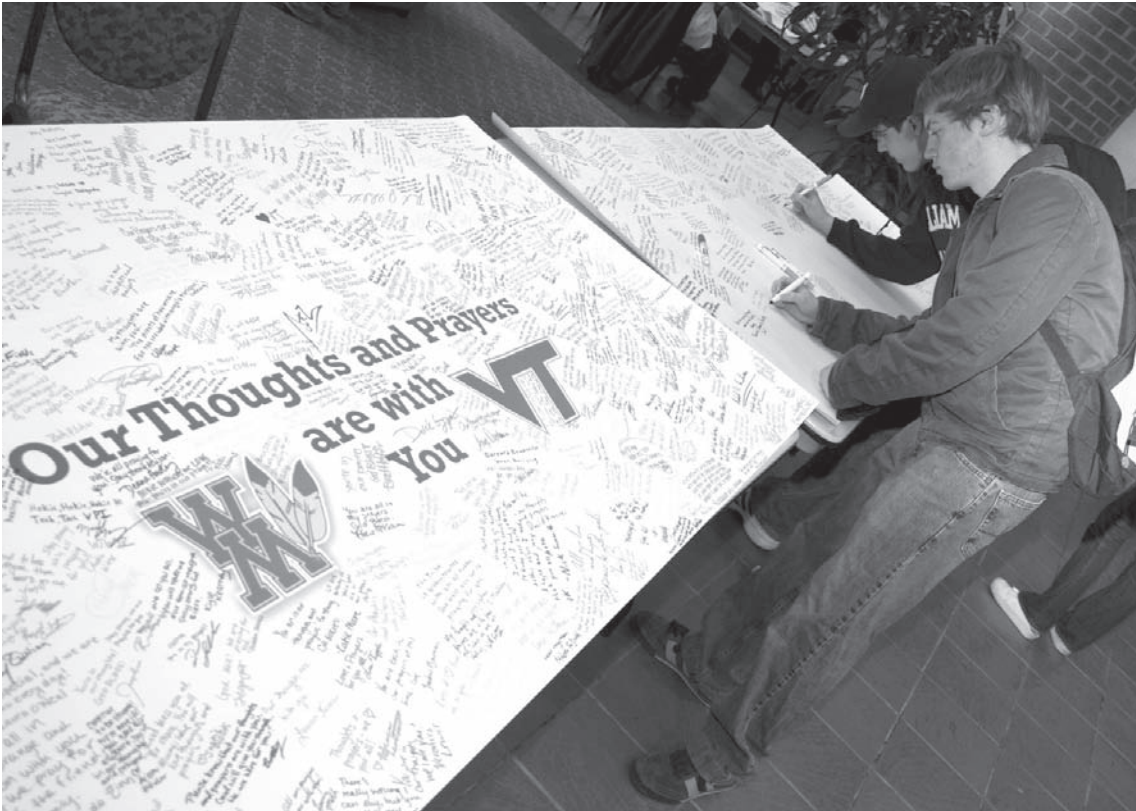
Ross Abdallah Alameddine ♦ Jamie Bishop ♦ Brian Bluhm ♦ Ryan Clark ♦ Austin Cloyd ♦ Jocelyne Couture-Nowak ♦ Daniel Perez Cueva ♦ Kevin Granata ♦ Matthew Gwaltney

Caitlin Hammaren ♦ Rachel Hill ♦ Jeremy Herbstritt ♦ Emily Hilscher ♦ Jarrett Lane ♦ Matt La Porte ♦ Henry Lee ♦ Liviu Librescu ♦ G.V. Loganathan

Partahi Lumbantoruan ♦ Lauren Ashley McCain ♦ Dan O’Neil ♦ Juan Ortiz ♦ Minal Panchal ♦ Erin Peterson ♦ Michael Steven Pohle Jr.

Julia Pryde ♦ Mary Karen Read ♦ Reema Samaha ♦ Waleed Shaalan ♦ Leslie Sherman ♦ Maxine Turner ♦ Nicole Regina White

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT

Students add their signatures to a large banner in the University Center. The banner, created by the student group Colorblind, will be sent to Virginia Tech at the end of the week as an offer of condolence.

Counselors comfort

By JESSICA TAUBMAN

THE FLAT HAT

The tragedy at Virginia Tech has had a strong impact on the College community. The Counseling Center, located in Blow Memorial Hall, is available to those students who desire help coping with the tragedy.

The flow of students who have sought counseling has been steady since Monday, with surges of busy periods intermittently. Thursday has been the busiest day thus far. Associate Director of the Counseling Center Jan Pattis said that it is because students are beginning to process the tragedy.

Pattis said that the Counseling Center has done everything it can to accommodate the students who wish to talk to a counselor. Tuesday, the Counseling Center set aside an hour and a half for walk-in students. Each of the counselors worked with their

regular clients to accommodate students who needed to process what had occurred at Virginia Tech. Some of the clients agreed to share their time with these students, so that the needs of all who sought help were met.

Pattis referred to an article from the American Psychological Association that is available to students which offers tips on how to deal with this tragedy. She stresses that the best thing is for students to look after one another and to listen to each other. “Sometimes talking to a peer is just as healing, if not more so, than talking to a professional,” she said. Pattis also advised students to take a break from the news, to turn off the electronic media. The students have been inundated with news about the tragedy, and it is okay to think about other things, she said.

“Students should take care of themselves. I’m talking basics. Eat

well, continue to engage in physical activity, sleep well, rest. Avoid alcohol and drugs, which can interfere with experiencing natural emotions,” she said.

If a student knows someone at Virginia Tech who is seeking help from a friend, Pattis said that the best thing to do is to let him or her know that you are there and to listen.

In addition to the services provided by the Counseling Center during its normal operating hours, the College offers some other methods of coping. Group sessions were offered at 5:00 p.m. Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler welcomed both students and staff who wished to attend.

Pattis stressed that the Counseling Center’s goal is to be available and see students as they walk in if possible and definitely on the same day they wish to make an appointment.

Blacksburg words

Student journalist from Virginia Tech sheds light into the university’s grieving process

By RYAN McCONNEL

THE COLLEGIATE TIMES

The crisp night air on the Virginia Tech Drillfield was punctuated with vivacious chants of “Let’s Go ... Hokies” and luminated with thousands of candles as the Tech community rallied around the memory of the 32 victims of the deadliest shooting spree in United States history, while simultaneously making strides in the recovery process.

After President Bush, Governor Tim Kaine, university President Charles Steger, and several Virginia Tech administrators and faculty spoke at a convocation ceremony earlier during the day, thousands of people occupied the Drillfield to conduct a candlelit vigil in honor of the victims.

Kaine, Steger, and others were present behind those who spoke at the vigil.

Adeel Khan, the recently elected president of the Student Government Association, was forced to deal with the worst tragedy in Virginia Tech history in his first couple of weeks on the job.

“I definitely felt overwhelmed by it, but it wasn’t my effort it was the students’ effort and that shone through today. It wasn’t one person, it wasn’t just me, it was a ton of people mobilizing students and I had all the help in the world. I can’t

give enough credit to these students who’ve given their hearts and their lives over the past few days,” Khan said.

Zenobia Hikes, the vice president for Student Affairs, who previously had addressed the community at the convocation in Cassell Coliseum, once again commanded the attention of the crowd, this time giving a speech to the masses on the Drillfield intended to inspire a strong sense of resolve. Afterward, Hikes reflected on the role of the university in the grieving and healing process.

“There’s so much to say, the role tonight is to comfort and let them know that they are supported, and to let them see from the throngs of people, that people love us and care about each other or they wouldn’t be here. To let them know that there is support for them at the university and with each other,” Hikes said.

Student leaders addressed the gathering as well, reiterating that students take comfort in each others’ presence.

“This is the toughest thing I have experienced in my professional career and in my life. This has made history, and certainly all of my colleagues in higher education would say the same thing, there has been no other tragedy of this magnitude,” Hikes said. “4/16 for the rest of our history will always be a meaningful day. It will always be, and we will

never forget 4/16.”

Hokies United, a student organization that responds to tragedies that affect the Virginia Tech community and its students, coordinated the logistics of the event.

“We had our first meeting yesterday at 5 o’clock,” said Scott Cheatham, a co-organizer of Hokies United. “We had been talking in a group chat all morning about different ideas that everyone had, and we came together and we talked about what the program was going to be for the convocation and we decided the best thing we could organize was a candlelight vigil.”

Several other organizations on campus were interested in doing a vigil as well, so Hokies United teamed with them to put on the event, Cheatham said.

Cheatham added that while no events through the organization were planned for the immediate future, any updates would be posted on their website.

Greg Sagstetter, the undergraduate representative to the university’s Board of Visitors was present at the vigil, and sat among the politicians and other dignitaries in attendance for the convocation.

When asked how it felt to be in prestigious company at an event of that magnitude, Sagstetter responded, “I wish I didn’t have to be a piece of history. I wish this never happened.”

College grieves loss

GRIEVES from page 1

“Having dealt with feelings of grief while at college, we wanted to show Tech that they are not alone.” McCown said. “As has been continuously repeated in the last few days, ‘Today, we are

all Hokies.’”

Throughout the College campus, student reactions to the Virginia Tech tragedies were visible. As a small sign of support, a large number of College students changed their Facebook profile

pictures to black ribbons with the Virginia Tech logo. Others showed their support by sporting Virginia Tech gear and wearing orange and maroon ribbons. Friday is “Orange and Maroon Effect” day.

Details emerge

DETAILS from page 1

Ian MacFarlane, a former classmate of Cho’s and current AOL employee, posted two short plays written by Cho to a blog on AOL.com. One of the plays, titled “Richard McBeef,” features several expletive-ridden rants and references to sexual abuse.

Another of the plays, “Mr. Brownstone,” features three teenage students ranting about their math teacher, Mr. Brownstone. At one point, a character says, “I wanna watch him bleed the way he made us kids bleed,” and the play includes more references to sexual abuse.

Roy stressed, however, that while she encouraged Cho to seek counseling every time she met with him, there was nothing she could do under the law to force him to go. Moreover, because Cho made no overt threats in his work, the school and police had no outlet, either.

A methodical attack

Erin Sheehan, a freshman at Virginia Tech, was in her 9:05 German class in Norris Hall at the time of Cho’s attack. In an interview with the Collegiate Times, the student newspaper at Virginia Tech, Sheehan described the gunman.

“He was just a normal looking

kid, Asian, but he had on a Boy Scout type outfit,” she said. “He wore a tan button-up vest, and this black vest, maybe it was for ammo or something.”

Sheehan said that the shooter was methodical.

“It seemed so strange, because he peeked in twice earlier in the lesson, like he was looking for someone, somebody, before he started shooting,” she said. “But then we all heard something like drilling in the walls, and someone thought they sounded like bullets. That’s when we blockaded the door to stop anyone from coming in.”

Sheehan survived by pretending to be dead after Cho’s first attack, escaping his gaze as he walked down each row of desks. She did, however, witness her classmates’ suffering.

“People in the class were passed out, I don’t know maybe from shock from the pain. But I was one of only four that made it out of that classroom. The rest were dead or injured. My professor, Herr Bishop, I’m not sure if he’s alive.”

Professor Jamie Bishop was among the vast majority of her 25-person class who did not survive.

Cho’s ‘multimedia manifesto’

Details from the “multimedia manifesto” lead investigators to believe that Cho’s attacks were premeditated. NBC News was able to retrieve time stamps on several pieces of media included in the package.

The two Word drafts were early versions of the two sections of the Cho’s manifesto in the PDF file. One

of the files was last modified April 13 at 3:45 p.m. The other document was last modified April 15 at 8:22 a.m. Both achieved their final form prior to the massacre.

Among the 28 videos, there was one AVI file that depicted Cho reading his manifesto. The AVI video was recorded April 10 at 9:40 a.m., six days prior to the shootings.

The PDF file was the last file to be modified in the package at 7:24 a.m.

April 16, approximately nine minutes after shooting his first two victims.

Cho’s words seemed to represent those of a man who felt victimized by society. He was vague regarding the targets of his diatribe, but he seemed to implicate Virginia Tech students, although there is no direct mention of the school.

The entire manifesto is replete with vague religious insinuations and makes several allusions to Jesus

Christ. He seems to paint himself as a martyr, and refers to the Columbine High School shooters, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, as martyrs as well.

As vague as Cho’s words were, though, the lack of remorse was prominent.

The campus turns to healing

Virginia Governor Timothy Kaine declared today a day of mourning, focusing the mood on campus

toward the healing process.

It will not be easy.

“I’m terrified,” Tech sophomore Laura Lisbeth told CNN. “It’s going to be so hard to walk back in to class and trust that nothing bad will happen.”

Virginia Tech announced that it will award posthumous degrees to every student killed Monday at commencement this May to recognize their achievements.

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Potter, Phillips plan to stay involved

By ANDY GARDEN
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Although their bid to become Student Assembly President and Vice President was unsuccessful, juniors Brad Potter and Brett Phillips say they'll continue working to improve student life at the College.

"It's funny, after losing the election, one door closed and it feels like five have opened; I'm excited to see where those doors take me. One thing can be certain, service of some kind will be involved," Potter said in an e-mail.

Neither Potter nor Phillips has immediate plans to work with the Student Assembly next year.

"That's nothing to do with not wanting to help out, or anything like that," Phillips said. "I'm going to use this opportunity to do some other things."

The two rising seniors expressed excitement about working with the Student Chamber of Commerce (SCC), which Potter founded in January.

According to Phillips, the SCC "is geared toward making the connection between the student body and the outside community in terms of the economy and local business."

He described the SCC as a form of economic networking, linking students seeking services and jobs to businesses search-

ing for customers and employees.

"There is a lot on and off campus that advocates can do to better student life, and the SCC will be playing a big role in the future," Potter said. "The Student Assembly is one means of helping the community, but by no means the only way."

Phillips talked about setting up "a website sort of like 'Consumer Reports,'" ranking student businesses and providing information on where to find basic but difficult-to-locate services. He also mentioned supporting the FlexCar plan that was part of their campaign, nothing that "we don't need to be in the SA to accomplish that."

Outside of their goals to improve student life, Potter and Phillips said they would look for opportunities to reconnect with campus.

"I want to get involved in one of the spring break service trips next year," Potter said. "In the classroom, I'm going to be writing an honors thesis in IR and a senior project in physics, so I'll be more than busy finishing my double major."

With their lengthy SA careers coming to a close, both will be transitioning back to life outside of student government.

"Just coming off running for student body president, there's a little bit of a void not being affiliated with student government anymore. I'm not going to be involved in Student Assembly," Phillips said. "Probably just going to be a student again."

SA INAUGURATION



ANGELA COTA • THE FLAT HAT
Newly elected Student Assembly members for the Class of 2008 were sworn into office April 16 at a ceremony in the Wren Chapel.

Inactive senator wins reelection with unique strategy: minimal campaign

By JEFF DOOLEY
FLAT HAT SPORTS EDITOR

He was supposed to be the leader of the New School Revolution. He was supposed to be the "rogue" or "maverick" senator, the one with the cojones to stand up to Ryan Scofield and company. The one who, perhaps more than any other senator, was to provide the fresh addition that the stuffy, government major-laden Student Assembly senate so sorely needed.

But the revolution never got off the ground.

Sophomore Sean Sheppard says he got lost in the formality of the senate and faded into the background.

"I didn't talk much," Sheppard said. "I didn't really do that much that is measurable by the current SA standards. I didn't go to a lot of committee meetings. I was secretary and, apparently, one of the liaisons [between the senate and executive department]. I never met with the executive department. I just didn't do what I was supposed to do because I don't — and I hate to say [this] — I don't like wasting my time for something I know wouldn't yield tangible results."

Sheppard attributes part of the reason for his lack of accomplishment this past year to the fact that all the people he ran with in the election last year lost.

Last year, fellow New School Revolution members sophomores Brad Clark, Stephan Jensen and Scott Williamson all saw their senate campaigns end in defeat, and SA presidential and vice presidential candidates Sean Barker and Constance Sisk, both seniors, were also defeated.

"I was very by myself," Sheppard said. "That attitude definitely affected me throughout the entire year."

In answering questions for this interview at the UC couches, Sheppard showed that he still possesses the same unique qualities that got him elected senator last year. He is currently designing his own major, Campus Activism and Education Reform, although he does not yet have enough credits to declare, saying that he is "mad far behind in [my] schoolwork."

His ability to hold extended conversation on just about any topic regarding the

College is remarkable. He often goes off on tangents he tastefully refers to as "diarrhea of the mouth," where he'll pose questions such as, "Why doesn't the College buy the College Delly?" He possesses the charm of a politician, but none of the political correctness or rhetoric.

Sheppard says that he regrets his lack of performance this year.

"I regret that I was overcome by all the weirdness of the senate," he said. "I wish that I had just seen it, processed it, and decided 'I'm going to change this, this, this and this,' and shared my ideas more vocally. And I didn't. I was just like 'this is stupid, man ... fuck the man,' more or less, 'fuck the senate,' and I did that for a whole year, more or less."

After deciding to run for re-election this year, Sheppard ran a campaign that would make Karl Rove's head explode. He led off by writing an opinion column for The Flat Hat in which he admitted how little work he did ("I miss a lot of committee meetings," he wrote. "The ones that I go to, I rarely take minutes."), did nothing to mention any of the work he actually did do and challenged students to hold their elected officials accountable.

"On March 29, cast your SA vote wisely and demand something for your commitment," he wrote.

When all the votes were finally tallied, Sheppard was re-elected. He slid into fourth place, the last spot, with 42 percent of the vote, defeating his closest challenger sophomore John Constance by only 15 votes.

"Enough people understood what I was saying and realized that I was being honest and to the point," Sheppard said.

SA President-elect Zach Pilchen, who worked with Sheppard as a Class of 2009 senator last year, called Sheppard's campaign, "the most honest, well-intentioned senate campaign run in a long time."

Constance had a different take.

"I think the election results clearly show that it's not what you do that gets you elected, it's how many people you know," Constance said. "By his own remarks and statements, Sean has no desire to positively represent those who re-elected him into office."

Sheppard disagreed with Constance's statements.

"I don't think [the opinions column] says that I don't plan on doing anything, I think it says that I didn't do anything," he said.

Despite his own claims of lack of accomplishment, Sheppard tied for fifth in The Flat Hat's "Fall 2006 SA Senate Report Card rankings." Two of his fellow Class of 2009 senators from last year, Walter McClean and Pilchen (the third, Matt Beato, did not reply to an interview request), have high praise for Sheppard's work and ingenuity.

"I often wish I had Sean's big-picture perspective, because it's easy to forget that the SA is meant to serve the students," McClean said.

Sheppard has several ideas of how to make the SA senate less of a "recommendation body" and more of a direct representative body of the students.

He wants to establish a Student Activities Council that would be elected by student organizations and then would take care of the activity budgetary process instead of the senate.

He also wants the senate to write a recommendation to the school administration requesting more power for the student government. He believes the only way this can ultimately be achieved is if the student body takes an active part in this.

Sheppard has a fair share of experience in campus activism, as he is involved in Students for a Democratic Society. While there are no officers in SDS, Sheppard is among the 12 or so most involved members. He is currently busy planning a convention for the group to be held at the College April 20 to 22.

As for next year, Sheppard says that he is ready to get to work and make a difference. He has a year of experience in dealing with the formalities and structure of the senate under his belt, and his like-minded friend Pilchen (with whom he was once in a faux Facebook relationship) is taking over the reigns as SA president.

His claims of being alone and unaware of the rules of the game will not cut it next year. For Sheppard, there are no more excuses.

"If I don't do anything this year, I am a scumbag," Sheppard said.

Students content with Heath Center services

By ALEXANDRA COCHRANE
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

The Student Health Center is currently in the process of conducting its annual patient satisfaction survey. Last year's feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with 99 percent satisfaction rates in "The SHC staff had a positive attitude," "The SHC staff respected the confidentiality and privacy of my health," "I was treated with respect and dignity," and "My concerns were listened to and considered."

The survey is a two-minute anonymous questionnaire, conducted electronically by the front desk as a patient exits the center. Last year, 398 students were surveyed and asked to provide a grade in the form of a percentile that reflects the SHC's strength in twelve different areas.

The lowest was a 94 percent satisfaction rate in response to the statement, "Specific lifestyle modifications to prevent or reduce my condition were communicated to me."

The College's health center is one of less than 10 percent of university health centers that is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care.

Sophomore Eddie Baldwin had a positive experience at the SHC when he was afflicted with a serious case of allergic conjunctivitis.

"When I went in the nursing staff was really kind," he said. "They tended to me before opening hours, called the hospital and did everything they could. I am really grateful to them for that."

The center functions like any primary care doctor's office. Students are encouraged to call the appointment line if they have a health issue, and about 60 to 70 percent of cases can be seen in the same day.

The center employs four doctors, two nurse practitioners, one physician assistant, five nurses and a pharmacist.

If someone has an urgent illness, they can usually be seen immediately or transferred to the hospital.

According to Dr. Gail Moses, director of the health center, the center sees approximately 135 patients per day, but only one patient per week, on average, is transferred to the hospital by ambulance. Twenty-five to 30 patients a week are referred to specialists.

Student cases usually peak on Monday and Friday mornings because only patients with urgent problems are able to access the center on Saturdays.

However, students may call the Ask a Nurse Line with health questions. The health center coordinates closely with the College administration during times when contagious illnesses are affecting a large number of students.

"We communicate with the administration of the College to address public health issues, for instance during the time of the norovirus, we asked that facilities management clean the bathrooms more often," Moses said. "We also maintain communication with our public health department."

The SHC also maintains a close relationship with the counseling center. According to Moses, patients are often referred back and forth.

"We collaborate as a team," Moses said. "They are a highly skilled, incredible group of professionals."

The SHC also employs two health educators. One focuses on substance issues and the other focuses on mental, sexual and nutritional health.

These educators are available to hold programs for any student group interested in a specific health education topic. The substance abuse educator implemented AlcoholEdu last year.

Recent programs also include offering the new HPV vaccination, Gardasil, and revamping women's health services.



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT
A recent survey suggest that students are satisfied with the Student Health Center.

Colleges criticize rankings

By MEGHAN O'MALLEY
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

The U.S. News & World Report college rankings may soon be officially boycotted by colleges and universities across the nation, according to an April 12 article in The Christian Science Monitor.

The article states that many schools refused to fill out the surveys used to calculate rankings, and "efforts are now afoot for a collective boycott. The 'reputational survey,' as it's called, asks college administrators to rank the quality of hundreds of schools on a one to five scale," which counts for 25 percent of the rankings.

"[Our] methodology has been refined over 20-plus years in our efforts to find the best way to assess the quality of education each university has to offer," a U.S. News & World Report spokesman said.

The article cites an op-ed written by Michele Tolela Myers, President of Sarah Lawrence College, for The Washington Post. Two years ago, she decided to eliminate SAT scores from the admissions process, and discontinue providing said information to U.S. News.

Myers claims that U.S. News told her that "the magazine will calculate the college's ranking by assuming an arbitrary average SAT score of one standard deviation (approximately 200 points) below the average score of our peer group."

According to The Christian Science Monitor article, U.S. News executive editor Brian Kelly, has stated that this was a miscommunication and the magazine will not use this method.

An admissions officer at St. John's College in Annapolis, Md. said that St. John's has asked to not be included in the rankings at all. St. John's was formerly ranked anywhere from the third tier to the top 25 schools before pulling out.

Lloyd Thacker, executive director of The Education Conservancy in Portland,

Ore. a non-profit organization that seeks to improve the college admissions process, came up with the idea of an official boycott and is orchestrating the campaign.

Thacker and a group of college presidents wrote a letter sent to college presidents asking them to not fill out the survey as well as to refrain from using the U.S. News rankings in promotional materials. So far, eight presidents have agreed to endorse the letter.

"The rankings do a great disservice to education by overestimating the prestige of a college," Thacker said. "The past 20 years have witnessed the commercialization of [admissions]."

The rankings, according to U.S. News, will not suffer in breadth or legitimacy with the decrease in participation.

"If a handful of colleges ... decide not to complete the peer survey, it won't affect the rankings' statistical significance," the U.S. News spokesman said.

Thacker believes that the four major components of the U.S. News rankings (average SAT scores, the reputation of the school, the selectivity of the school and the amount of alumni giving) are calculated disproportionately.

When asked about how influential these rankings can be, the spokesman for U.S. News stated that "clearly there is a demand, even a hunger for this information."

Henry Broadus, Dean of Admission at the College, stated that the College will not be participating in the boycott, but is aware of the limitations of the rankings.

"The most important single criterion in the U.S. News methodology is the so-called institutional reputation survey completed by presidents, provosts and deans of admission. We don't know and can't know enough about other institutions to grade them with credible authority ... [the rankings are] not accurate with respect to any purported ability to make hairline distinctions between colleges and universities."

College readies for emergency

EMERGENCY *from page 1*

“It would certainly be good if we could get it in place before next year,” he said.

The Board of Visitors discussed the College’s emergency plans at a special session at Thursday’s meeting. They held both an open and a closed session. BOV Rector Michael Powell said that the closed session was important in order to keep some plans secret.

“A lot of this we don’t want out,” he said to the Board. “[There are things] you don’t tell the enemy.”

The BOV discussed at length the potential of the new communication system. Sadler stressed that it was important for the College to have an effective system of student communication.

“A system like this could make a real difference,” he said. “With a new system, it would take an instant to call everybody. If you have a cell phone number, no matter where you are, the message can reach you.”

Addressing concerns of members of the Board, Sadler and other members of the crisis management team offered suggestions as to how to make the program most effective. One crisis management team member suggested ensuring all classrooms be equipped with phones to ensure the message reaches all students. Some BOV members suggested looking into a campus-wide alarm system.

“Our fire alarm system has a voice message system,” Chief of Police Don Challis said to the BOV. He added that in case students were outside and could not be contacted that there were ways of officers in police vehicles to signal to students.

“However, no system is going to contact everyone,” he said.

Sadler added that starting this year, the College has required students to give a local telephone number and address in order for the crisis management team to be able to best contact students in the event of an emergency.

Powell stressed at the meeting it was important for the College to find ways of not only informing students of an emergency, but also giving them instructions.

“If [one-third of the students] see

this message, they will become the network,” he said. “The fire will go fast if you can populate it to enough people.”

Director of News Services for University Relations Brian Whitson said he had witnessed a demonstration of the new technology and called it “impressive.”

“They demonstrated it in a meeting and, all at once, our cell phones rang instantly,” he said.

Nichol commented on the events at Virginia Tech and said that the safety of students was of the College’s “greatest concern.” He emphasized that the crisis management team had done a good job of responding to student needs in the past.

“Our job now is to be more vigilant,” he said. “Plans must be improved and they can never be seen as complete.”

Sadler emphasized that the crisis management team went into effect at the College immediately after the school found out about the tragedy. The student mental health center changed its hours in order to accommodate students.

He added that the events at Virginia Tech will cause colleges to look at the systems they have in place and see what changes should be made and said that he didn’t want to speculate too much about what the College would do in a similar situation.

“I don’t think that helps them right now,” he said. “I feel so sorry for them, it’s almost like a circus environment with all the media on campus. What-ifs are complicated.”

He did say had a similar event happened on campus as the police would have been notified and dispatched immediately.

“Initially we [probably] would have sealed off the building,” he said. “At least we would have sealed off the floor area. But, it’s hard without all of the details.”

He added that the crisis management team has dealt with several emergencies in the past and has had a lot of practice. He pointed to Hurricane Isabel and most recently, the gas leak in Rogers Hall last semester. However, he said that there were always chances for the College to improve its system.

“[Virginia Tech] is a teachable moment for all of us,” he said.



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT
Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler has been working with the crisis management team to improve the College’s emergency procedures .

BOV ups tuition rates

BOV *from page 1*

Boston College — experiencing similar increases.

According to Vice President for finance Samuel Jones the tuition hike will assist the College in fulfilling its “Six-Year Academic Plan,” with goals that include increasing the average faculty salary and promoting faculty research. Jones hopes to fulfill a 5 percent budget hike for teaching and research by the fiscal year 2010.

Jones said that undergraduate tuition supplements a variety of revenue that is designed to increase the College’s academic program and keep it in competition with its peer institutions.

“The balance of tuition revenue is supplemented by incremental state dollars, allowing the College to address targeted areas of investment across campus, including faculty and staff salaries, faculty research, graduate student aid, base operations, operating costs associated with new facilities coming on-line and the continued restructuring of various College activities,” Jones said.

Jones also said that the College’s in-state tuition was a bargain compared to the College’s peer institutions, providing a greater incentive for Virginia residents to attend the College. He also said, however, that the gap between the College’s tuition and that of other universities is narrowing.

While tuition increases are standard annual practices for most of the country’s colleges and universities, BOV member Jeffrey L. McWaters said that he worried for working families — particularly in Virginia — who are faced with

tuition increases that become increasingly less affordable.

“What happens in America when coming to college costs over \$20,000 for a working family?” McWaters said.

Jones said that the tuition increases will also help fund scholarship programs and financial aid for students who cannot afford a college education.

Vice Rector Henry Wolf added that the College, faced with increasing costs and less state support, is playing financial “catch-up.” One way of balancing increasing costs, Wolf said, is to raise tuition.

College President Gene Nichol said that affordability has always

been a concern for the College and noted that the College is ranked the third best value in higher education by Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine.

The board also stressed the importance of communication between the College and families concerning financial matters. BOV secretary Suzann Matthews asked Jones if families were aware that tuition and fees will increase annually.

BOV Rector Michael Powell agreed with Matthews.

“I wonder whether schools are being thoughtful and fully disclosing,” Powell said about tuition increases.

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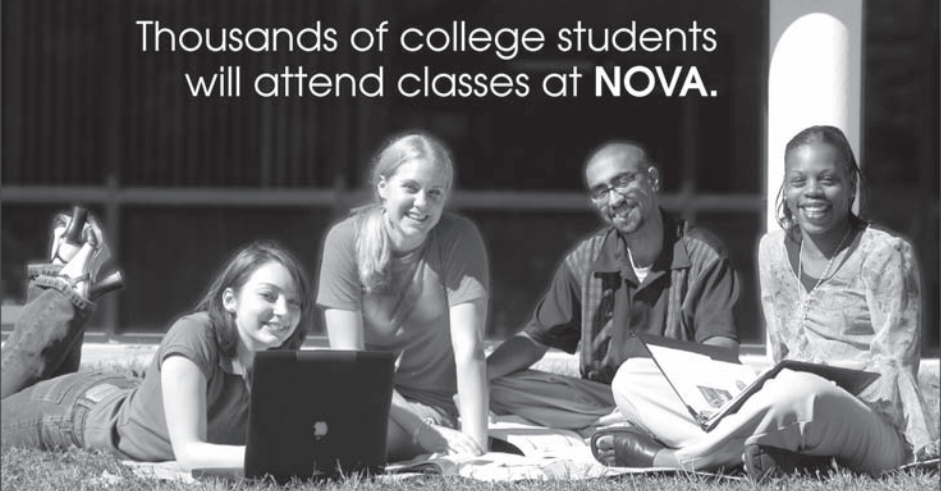


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STAFF EDITORIAL

College needs to step up on-campus housing

This is the time of year when students have traditionally packed Trinkle Hall in a frenzied effort to get their hands on the best housing options for the coming academic year. This spring, with the housing lottery taking place online and no more than 60 students vying for rooms during a particular block of time, the housing selection has been, by most accounts, smooth and easy. However, with 326 students bumped from campus housing before the lottery began — an increase of 150 from last year — it remains clear that Residence Life and the housing selection process have serious flaws.

While ResLife reports that those who were bumped will eventually be reinstated, offers for housing for these students will likely consist of overcrowd rooms with randomly assigned roommates, a prospect which does not excite many. The issue, then, appears to be a lack of adequate space. There are several ways for the College to address these concerns and make sure that next year there are not so many students left out in the cold.

It is no secret that the idea of living in the Dillard Complex is far from glamorous. Yet, at the same time, the security and knowledge that one has a place to live with people he or she knows outweigh the inconvenience of taking a shuttle to campus. Furthermore, the fact that Dillard has been sitting idle all year, serving little if any purpose, while hundreds of students do not have guaranteed housing is absurd, particularly when housing laws in the City of Williamsburg make it extremely difficult to live off campus. In many cases, students are informed

Some students will still be unhappy with where they end up, but the idea that a top state school ... does not have a system in place where it can guarantee housing for all of its students is inexcusable.

that they have been bumped months after all the available off-campus houses have been scooped up, leaving students to hope that a room with a transfer student in the Units becomes available.

Reopening Dillard would provide a short-term solution to this problem, but a more thorough and practical approach would involve rearranging the placement of certain College offices and houses in order to accommodate students. For example, the Stetson House, the Holmes House, the SA House and a host of other buildings on Jamestown Road are currently used as offices, many of which employ workers with access to cars. Moving such offices to Dillard or elsewhere would free up these houses for students. While these houses cannot accommodate the same numbers as campus dorms, they would play a crucial role in taking pressure off ResLife and making the process more convenient and less nerve-racking for students.

We understand that no solution will be a panacea for ResLife or for student housing concerns. Some students will still be unhappy with where they end up, but the idea that a top state school, particularly a college of our tradition and supposed commitment to on-campus living, does not have a system in place that can guarantee housing for all of its students is inexcusable. This becomes even more staggering when the facilities are currently in place for guaranteed housing. Students at the College have enough to worry about without having to stress about whether they will have a place to live during the next academic year, and the administration and ResLife need to recognize this concern.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author's name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

Oxford: the column

For the remainder of this semester, my duties as a staff columnist will mostly consist of gushing (and/or whining, and/or demonstrating to astute readers the classic signs of homesickness, and/or

substance abuse and/or exhaustion and/or quietly disappearing from these pages after failing to write yet another paper because of my unfaltering allegiance to The Flat Hat) about Oxford, that venerable bastion of academia, a place so old that it makes the College look, well, not as old; though when one considers the age of the universe they're both comparatively young, these so-called "universities."

Yep, I was miraculously admitted to the place without even needing to bribe them, unless that was included in the pulse-stopping tuition bill. (If you're interested in subsidizing these columns, e-mail me. We'll talk.) After a few months of puttering around Williamsburg with next to no responsibilities, here I am, in England. As Forrest Gump once said, "It's this whole other country."

Of course, if I'm not careful, these columns may start to read like those rambling and interminable e-mails

that everybody gets from friends who're studying abroad, except that I have the distinct disadvantage of not being your friend. You know the e-mails — you really want to read them, because, hey, they're from your friends, or they are from people who regard you as a friend, and they're off in a foreign land discovering the innermost secrets of selfhood, coming of age and getting into international trouble. But somehow, after the fourth or fifth picture in which the main point seems to be, "the drinking age here is 18, sucker," you've had your fill.

To stay safe and a little bit lazy, I'm going to let Oxford speak for itself this week. Below are excerpts from various encounters I've had in the past few days, all of them demonstrating the unique character of this area. If you get bored, you don't even need to push "delete" — just tear up the newspaper and frown at passers-by. If you want to read the other columns, well, then you're on your own.

I. Oxford's I.T. website, on how to pick a password for your e-mail address:

"We ensure that [your] password is not a word or name by checking a very large dictionary which

includes proper names, words from several languages and many non-words such as 'qwerty' and 3.14159."

Because if you're a math major, hackers will guess pi right away. And confound that O.E.D. — I couldn't even think of using "absquatulate" or "upendizi," the Swahili word for "love."

II. A conversation at dinner: A W&M student asks, "Can I Facebook you?"

An Oxford student replies, "Well, you can try."

III. A College nurse, on staying healthy at Oxford:

"I don't know if you're aware, but this town runs on alcohol. It really does. You'll be offered it everywhere: at pubs, at meals, by your friends, by your tutors. I worry about it, because — especially with the young ladies — it can lead to some, well, 'compromising situations.' But do try to stay healthy. I'm sure there are all sorts of viruses here you haven't got back in the States. Sure, you'll come down with the sniffles. But really, wash up, eat right. Do try."

IV. The tail end of a conversation at an orientation luncheon about punting, a type of boating popular in Oxford and Cambridge: A social club president says, "So, yeah, punts and punting, it's all a lot of fun, and we hope you'll come out and join us."

An older female professor replies, "Oh, but, not to bring down the spirit or anything, it can be dangerous. Yes, we've actually had students die while punting when they're not being careful." (Awkward silence.) "Needless to say, they had been drinking." (Another awkward silence.)

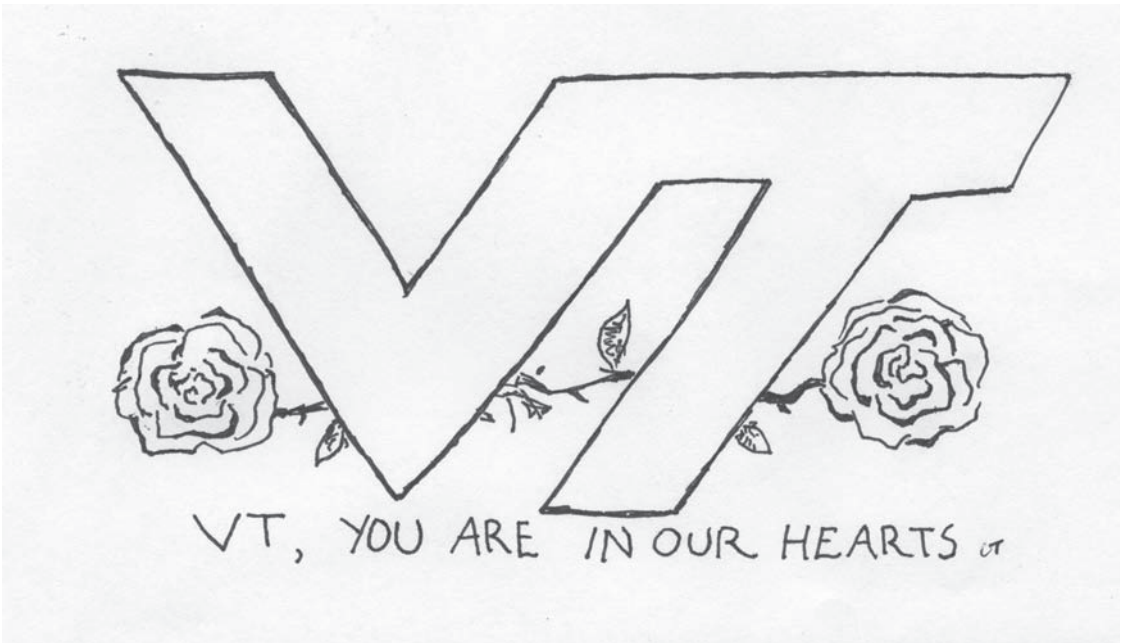
Another professor says, "Well, I suppose we should all be heading back to our offices about now."

V. Overheard at "The Old Tom," one of at least 10 pubs claiming to serve "the best fish'n'chips in Oxford:" An anonymous patron to the bartender, "Have you ever been threatened by the IRA?"

That's quite enough for the moment. From these snippets, it should be clear that I'm in for an interesting term — one for which you, dear reader, will be privy to every second.

Of course, Oxford might turn out to be little more than bizzaro Williamsburg. There's a Richmond Road here, too, and I've already seen my share of Gene Nichol look-alikes. More on this theory next week — assuming I don't drown during an episode of tripped punting.

Dan Piepenbring, a junior at the College, is a staff columnist. His columns appear on Fridays.



By Chad Thompson, Flat Hat Cartoonist

Alternative education

The College is both famous and notorious for its reputable academic intensity. Students receive the revered undergraduate degree after earning 120 credits in various fields. Moreover, students are equally notorious for their over-involvement in extracurricular pursuits: community service organizations, varsity and club sports, student government, religious, cultural and political organizations and publication councils, among others. All in all, we, as students, are heavily overburdened, whether through our choice or through our curriculum.

I propose that there is an equilibrium that has not yet been reached. Should students receive credit for producing tangible benefits from their extracurricular work? Should there be an opportunity to synthesize one's academic work with extracurricular

work in pursuit of a degree? Should the plethora of optional education (lectures, conferences, etc.) be worked into a credit-earning system?

The SDS MidEast convention will not give anyone credit, but it will hopefully provide the College community a thought-piece as to why our work as active community members is not weighted here. This weekend, April 20 to 22, Students for a Democratic Society will host the SDS MidEast Convention, themed "Keeping it Local." It is a weekend of participatory education, focusing on the development of student organizations as integral parts of a campus community, and how we, as students with progress and change in mind, can effectively influence our community.

Highlighted by three keynote speakers, a series of student-run workshops and an opportunity for direct involvement in protest, demonstration and direct action, the convention is structured in a way that should mimic a standard academic environment, but moves away from the traditional teachings on theory,

hard science and singular answer subject matter. In addition, a number of fun activities such as graffiti, banner making, poetry, a documentary about community action and a weekend-long "Food Not Bombs" operation will also take place.

Josh Ruebner will hold a workshop on how to organize your group to effectively lobby local and state governments at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow. This is especially pertinent to College students given our current situation with the Williamsburg City Council. At 1:00 p.m., Anotnia Juhasz will speak about the ravages of U.S. corporate-led globalization of the rest of the world, and how President George W. Bush's policies have fostered such damaging outsourcing. She will relate these international issues to our small town of Williamsburg by talking about the colonialist message that is protected and revered by the existence of Colonial Williamsburg as an economic super-power in this area. Rae Abileah and Sam Miller, two members of CodePink, will be

talking about women in activism, and how the current activist movement is largely dominated by men. They argue that the same gender superiority issues that have arisen throughout history are repeating themselves in the activist movement.

It is important to know that we are aiming for a non-politically charged event, because it is easy to succumb to the stereotype that all activists are radicals. Instead, this event is meant strictly to share techniques and tools used in organizing at the grassroots and local level: fundraising, networking, publicity, effective action, etc. This education benefits everyone, regardless of political affiliation.

So, this weekend, check out the Sunken Garden for a beehive of activity and consider how much you can do for both your personal goals and the betterment of the community by getting involved. Educate yourself on how to be an effective individual.

Sean Sheppard, a sophomore at the College, is a Student Assembly senator.

Distortion of TDX incident

The Flat Hat reported in the April 10 issue that two separate incidents occurred at Theta Delta Chi on April 1. The first incident occurred in the TDX unit when human excrement was found on the dance floor. The

second occurred after the dance floor was cleared when two students of the College argued outside the fraternity. According to a complaint by one of the students involved, the other student began to yell anti-gay remarks at him outside of the units. The Flat Hat staff wrote an editorial about the event in the same issue.

First, I think it is important to point out that it was not a Phi Tau fraternity member who put human excrement on the floor of TDX, which was clearly implied in the article, "Prank, slurs probed." Second, I think that it is unfortunate and indefensible if anti-gay remarks were made during the argument between the two students. However, I think the incident was grossly misrepresented in the article, which only serves to hurt both fraternities implicated.

I applaud TDX for declining to comment on the story. They were right to recognize the event as an individual issue, rather than an organizational one. Whatever was said represents the opinions of a single member, not Phi Tau as a whole. There has been no suggestion or evidence that the fraternity supports these types of remarks. However, the article generated more controversy by implying that the dispute between the two individuals was part of, or at least representative of, a broader tension or rivalry between two fraternities. The article refers to the student who made the remarks as "the Phi Tau brother," as if that is somehow connected to the statements he made. The repeated identification of the fraternity is unnecessary and only serves to paint a negative picture of Phi Tau and Greek life on campus.

It is true that when a member of a fraternity is recognized for some positive achievement or good behavior,

the fraternity often benefits from that attention. So of course, it should be expected that the same rules apply when a member is recognized for bad behavior. In the staff editorial, it is specifically stated that individual statements are not reflective of the fraternity as a whole; however, such poor statements will obviously reflect poorly on their peers. But it is a question of degree. This incident involves the words and actions of one person, not several or the entire fraternity. All of us who are part of the College community know how quickly reputations can be made and destroyed. The student apologized for what he said and he certainly needs to reconsider his choices for the future. However, now it must be left to the school and the fraternity to decide whether or not a punishment will be issued.

Both the article and editorial over-dramatized the event, inciting a false rivalry between the two fraternities and giving the impression that the conflict was somehow connected to such a rivalry. Journalists often dramatize stories in order to make them more interesting to read; however, they also have an obligation to give a balanced account of an event. It is not up to The Flat Hat to manipulate the situation when

many of the details remain unclear. While the dispute happened to occur between members of two separate fraternities, their membership in such organizations was entirely irrelevant to the dispute. I agree that any anti-gay remarks which were made are entirely unacceptable and it is certainly no excuse that the individual was drunk. But there is no need to characterize a dispute between two individuals in such a way that unnecessarily polarizes members of two large fraternities.

The article also stated that the student who allegedly made such remarks is set to face the Judicial Council, while no such meeting has been scheduled. I think that both articles grossly misrepresented the incident. Both fraternities are well respected on campus, and I would hope that a rivalry between the two organizations does not arise from this incident.

Rachael Siemon-Carome, a freshman at the College, is a staff columnist. Her columns appear on Fridays.

VARIETY

For Tri-Delta, ‘War’ is more than a kids’ game

By ELIZABETH COLE
THE FLAT HAT

Being dirty is underrated. Remember how as kids we relished jumping in mud puddles, building mud castles or, for some precocious kids, even eating mud? Tomorrow, reminisce in your childhood days of dirty. The Delta Delta Delta sorority at the College is hosting its third annual Tug-o-War competition tomorrow from 12 to 4 p.m. Proceeds will benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

The thought of doing service doesn’t immediately call to mind clenching a rope and dragging fellow classmates through the mud — but it can. For the past two years, the Tri-Delta sisters have hosted a tug-of-war contest as their annual philanthropic event. Teams of eight members compete against one another in a round-robin style tournament to win prizes. Every 15 minutes, a raffle drawing will feature an array of prizes from various Williamsburg businesses. Prizes include a \$50 gift certificate to Doraldo’s, a \$25 gift certificate to The Blue Talon, 150 coupon books to the Williamsburg Prime Outlets and more.

The sisters of Tri-Delta accrued generous donations from many local businesses, helping them cover the costs of food and drinks for participants. The chapter’s letter-writing campaign alone raised \$640, which also helped to defray the cost of hosting the event. With such benevolent contributions, the Tri-Delta chapter hopes to make an even greater contribution to St. Jude’s than in years past. The chapter’s goal for this year’s Tug-o-War is to raise \$2,000 to contribute to the hospital.

As successful as it is, the Tug-o-War competition is still a fledgling event. Tri-Delta sister senior Anna Perry spearheaded the inaugural event just two years ago. Prior to 2004, the chapter hosted a spring dodgeball tournament that also benefited St. Jude’s. According to Tri-Delta Philanthropy Chair sophomore Meredith Bryden, dwindling numbers of participants and a lack of fundraising inspired the chapter to opt for an alternative. All Tri-Delta chapters nationwide host philanthropic events to benefit St. Jude’s, but they vary. Some chapters host similar tug-of-war competitions, others host charity denim sales and still others host all-night pancake events.

“It’s a great fundraiser,” sophomore Tri-Delta sister Anna Bowen said. “We are honored to be able to support the number one cancer research hospital in the country.”

St. Jude’s is a national philanthropy of the Tri-Delta sorority. The hospital takes in all patients, regardless of their ability to pay for services. “They will take insurance, but the rest is taken care of by all of the donations made by people throughout the world,” Bryden said. “This is why our fundraising is so important.” The hospital has made and continues to make strides in improving the survival rates for children with terminal illnesses. One example Bryden noted is that the childhood survival rate of neuroblastoma has jumped from 5 to 95 percent with the aid of St. Jude’s research.

The third annual Tri-Delta Tug-o-War competition will take place tomorrow on the practice fields by the Units. The cost is \$10 per person to enter, participate and receive a T-shirt. Spectators who want to watch and receive a T-shirt can pay \$6, and spectators can pay \$2 to enter the field and watch. All participants are guaranteed a muddy time and will be offered a plethora of food and drinks for their efforts. For more information contact Meredith Bryden at mrbryd@wm.edu.

CONFUSION CORNER

Concert-going offers opportunities for hipster dancing, judging

I do it. You do it. Everyone you know does it ... except that one weird guy. In fact, it’s pretty much a favorite college pastime. I’m talking, of course, about concert-going. (You thought I was trying to

infringe on the sex column’s space again this week, didn’t you?)

Every time the school holds a big event, there’s a concert — Homecoming, Admitted Students Day, um ... spring (not technically it’s own one-day event, but still kind of a big deal).

Sometimes I enjoy these little hoe-downs, but truthfully, live music

performances, in and of themselves, don’t really do it for me. Somehow the “fun and enjoyment” portion of my brain can’t quite make the connection between a visual experience and a musical one. Call me a sense purist, but I tend to like listening to music and reserving use of my visual faculties for, you know, cage fights. Mardi Gras and laser light shows also tend to catch my visual attention — more so, at least, than a skinny, floppy-haired dude picking at a guitar.

Maybe it’s my fault. My music tastes tend to run towards anemic, bearded, girl-jeans-wearing dudes who hail from Canada or at least Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Maybe if I listened to more Prince, I would have a more fantastic full-sensory concert experience. Anyone who refers to himself by a self-bestowed regal title must put on quite the live show. As anyone who watched the Superbowl (i.e. anyone who’s a true American) knows, Prince’s shadow puppetry is impeccable. In my book, quasi-erotic (hey, it’s Prince) shadow puppetry ranks just below cage fights when it comes to visual stimulation.

There is, however, one aspect in which not even the majesty of Prince can compare to the shows put on by your favorite slouchy, wimpy, possibly-Canadian indie band. That thing, my friends, is the golden opportunity to do some serious hipster watching. Sure, the sorts of people who attend

massive glam rock, hair band, death metal or anything not utterly mainstream concerts are worth watching, but to me, there’s something about a sea of skinny jeans and ironically ironic T-shirts all turned in the general direction of the glockenspiel player that makes hipster-filled concerts an utterly enjoyable experience.

Now, before I end up the victim of a mysterious (but probably also ironic) bicycle, messenger bag or postmodern lit-crit-induced “accident,” I want to clarify: I like hipsters. I think they might even actually be “hip.” I also truly envy their ability to believe that leggings are exact same thing as actual trousers. Seriously. They’re certainly much cooler than I am.

All that being said, they’re still really fun to watch. And silently judging them has rescued many a concert experience for me. When you’re me, you’re five feet tall. When you’re five feet tall, the people who are actually on stage at a concert are kind of difficult to see. So, I depend on the hipster crowds to provide the evening’s visual entertainment, and they rarely disappoint. The hipster “look” alone is enough to keep me engaged for at least the opening band — particularly when said look is being sported by 30-somethings and their toddlers (though I don’t recommend skinny jeans over diapers — it makes for an unflattering, “bulgy” look).

Hipster dancing, though, brings the concert experience to a whole new level. There are some people who think hipsters don’t dance, or that they only do it begrudgingly and with little actual movement. This misconception stems from the fact that these people have never actually been to a hipster concert. The hip require their own music to feel comfortable dancing, and since most of this music is so hip it hasn’t actually been invented yet, few people get to witness full-on hipster dancing. It can be a little overwhelming, but don’t let the hipsters intimidate you. You could totally beat them in a cage fight, and I would happily watch.

Lauren Bell is a Confusion Corner columnist for The Flat Hat. She wishes she were known for her quasi-erotic shadow puppetry.



Lauren Bell

Tribe athletes quick to honor VT

By MAX FISHER
FLAT HAT CHIEF STAFF WRITER

“In such times as these, we look for sources of strength to sustain us,” President George W. Bush said in a Tuesday address to a somber audience at Virginia Tech. “And in this moment of loss, you’re finding these sources everywhere around you.” He went on to praise the community of support that had formed in response to Monday’s shootings.

Today, two of the Tribe’s own, sophomore

Katie Broaddus and junior Jes Kacerek, join that community.

“We talked and figured we should really do something for Tech because nothing had been done yet,” Kacerek said. She and Broaddus immediately began planning a fundraiser. They wanted to print and sell T-shirts to raise money in support of the victims. But the girls’ reaction was so swift that no one in Blacksburg had yet set up a way to receive outside aid.

“Tech didn’t have a memorial fund established yet,” Kacerek said. Vice President for Student

Affairs Sam Sadler and Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Ginger Ambler worked to put them in touch with the nascent Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund, which has since become the primary source of relief to the Virginia Tech community.

Kacerek and Broaddus, who are both members of the women’s field hockey team, approached Tess Ellis about printing the shirts. Ellis volunteers

as an assistant coach for the team and works at Colonial Sports, a local company that prints custom T-shirts. She immediately fell in with the spirit of the fundraiser: Colonial Sports offered to wave the cost of set-up and to charge for only one color, despite the normally expensive multi-color design of the shirts. Kacerek and Broaddus placed an order for 150 shirts.

That number has since increased to 1,500.

“We never anticipated it to be this huge,” Kacerek said. “It shows how much support there is here and how much we as a community are willing to help out a fellow university.” She cited the support of both students and staff, such as Women’s Lacrosse Coach Christine Halfpenny, who purchased shirts for her entire team to wear during warm-up at today’s game at George Mason University.

Kacerek, Broaddus and several of their teammates will be selling T-shirts today at the University Center between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. They expect their supply to sell-out quickly, but will be taking orders to reserve from the 1,000 additional shirts which will be printed this weekend.

“I just hope it provides a little bit of relief for the victims’ families,” Broaddus said. She is from Fairfax, Va. — not far from the home of shooter Cho Seung-Hui — and has many close friends at Virginia Tech, from which her brother is a graduate. “My friends at Tech are just so happy to see the support.”



CASEY SCULLY • THE FLAT HAT
Students pay tribute to the victims of the tragedy at Virginia Tech.

Sophomore rocker lands back-up gig

By ELIZABETH DERBY
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Between Facebook, MySpace and YouTube, our generation spends a lot of quasi-anonymous face time with one another. This explosion of communication often emphasizes, lines between social acceptance and isolation. On the flip side, our forays into interpersonal contact can establish true connections with our peers and even attain minor star status. One such success story is that of Mary Bonney, a sophomore at the College whose contest-winning YouTube video was her ticket to, internet notoriety.

Bonney saw her chance earlier this year in a blog post by the pop-punk rock band Paramore (Atlantic Records). Their infectious, catchy songs and strong female vocalist struck a chord with Bonney, her-

self the lead singer of rock bank Beyond the Static. “We’ve been compared to Paramore,” Bonney said, “and I’d liked them for years before they announced a contest to find a backup singer for one of their new album tracks.” Within a day of the announcement, over 100 entries were posted on YouTube — videos that mostly showed entrants singing Paramore songs with accompaniment. “I almost didn’t enter,” Bonney admitted. “It was intimidating. But it wasn’t all about vocal talent; the contest also called for personality and creativity. I figured the band must have been so sick of videos at that point, so I decided to do something different.”

47,000 hits later, Bonney’s video has made its way through the YouTube community. Singing Paramore and bouncing through the halls of her boyfriend’s house in Washington, D.C., Bonney engages the help of family members and friends as she radiates energy and cheerful lyrics.

The day the contest closed,

Bonney relieved her anxiety by taking a stroll through the Sunken Garden. “My cell phone rang, and the number was restricted,” she recounted. “It was the president of Atlantic Records calling, and I just sat there in shock.”

The trappings of celebrity descended swiftly on the singer, who took the train business-class

the first couple of hours they were still mixing the song [titled “Born for This”], so the bassist and the drummer made burgers on a massive grill outside. It was just like we were friends hanging out. One of the coolest things is that the members of Paramore know my name. They would recognize me if I came up and told them how much I admire

them. I’m not just fan number 3000 anymore. This really has been one of the coolest experiences of my life.”

Now that the contest and recording sessions are over, the fever pitch of newfound celebrity may have calmed in Bonney’s life, but the experience is far from over. Aside from recognition by the band and its fans, the singer

can expect her name — not to mention her voice — to be released this June on Paramore’s second album, “RIOT!” Bonney is an example of the courage and talent ripe in the student body at the College, and as her story shows, appropriate recognition may very well be one guttsy, crafty YouTube video away.



COURTESY PHOTO • KEVIN HERALDO
Sophomore Mary Bonney’s creative YouTube video beat out over 100 entries, winning her a back-up gig with favorite band Paramore.

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Hard

Directions:
Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each three-by-three block contain all of the digits 1 through 9.

Source: krazydad.com



By ELIZABETH DERBY
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

The beauty of the College lies not in the graceful arch of the Crim Dell bridge or the vaulted arches of the Wren Building. No, our campus derives its true intrigue from the quality and diversity of its students. We are academics and community volunteers, social butterflies and bookworms. Part-time male model and competitive athlete, Colin Reynolds is funny, intelligent and totally willing to strike up random conversations at the UC. Here, That Guy talks about transferring to the College, backpacking solo through Europe and the genius of Swem lockers.

You transferred to William and Mary as a junior. What's up with that?

At JMU I was really involved, got really good grades, knew a lot of people. I had a great time, and I gave it all up. I saw it as a natural progression — you get involved in an organization, and if you're really into it you rise in the ranks. I was at a point where if I rose in the ranks any more I would have to hold office hours and all that nonsense. I really didn't see myself going anywhere further.

What was the transition like into a new student community?

It's harder to get involved [at the College]. It seems like with everything here you have to apply to hold a position. If I'm going to devote my time, at least on my level, I don't think I need to justify my involvement in an organization that I'm devoting my time and my energy to be involved in. I decided to get involved on the community level through the Food Bank — they always need people, there's no need to beg them to get involved.

Talk to me about working with the Food Bank.

There seems to be a large percentage of the population that need food on a weekly basis — people in the service industry, people on hard times. The one thing is that you see a lot of people come and go. If you work for several weeks on end you start to recognize certain people; it's counterintuitive, but it's good when you don't see them. You may have formed that connection with them, just saying "hi" and asking how they are doing, but you hope you won't see them again because it means they're doing better.

What's your relationship with dining services?

As much as I like meeting new people, once I get into a routine I tend to stick to it, so I get lunch and dinner at the same place every day, usually at the same time as well. Usually when I'm there I read a book. Alone. It's amazing how much reading you can get

That Guy

Colin Reynolds

done if you read in there twice a day for a half an hour at a time. Some of us can go out in public without people on all sides and still be comfortable, so I go there and sit and read. Once in a while people will come up and ask to join me or something, and I always say yes. But I've definitely read a lot of books. Made a couple of friends, made some memories, shed a couple tears — you know, the whole range of emotions. All at the UC.

Explain your relationship with Swem.
From the get-go I've never studied at home, not at JMU or here ... It makes so much sense — I don't need to carry books around because I have a locker, I keep on renewing it, and I don't have to lumber around with all those books because I never study at home. It's nice there, the staff is great. You want to read a newspaper or magazine? You read it there. You can take it easy, watch a movie once in a while, take advantage of all the resources they have to offer. It's a nice environment, and you can get a lot of studying done. It's a great place to take advantage of all the things William and Mary has to offer.

You work at the Cheese Shop — how is it?
It's like a rite of passage here, either working at the Cheese Shop or the Green Leaf. I'd never had a bag of bread ends until recently, but now I have. Oh, I don't know. We don't have American cheese, people. We don't have lettuce and tomato; we have watercress and marinated roasted tomato. If someone asks me that again, I don't know what's going to happen.

What did you do over the summer?
I traveled to Europe and Asia; I spent two months alone. Europe was great; it was just me with a pack. I slept in a barn a couple of nights. I got really drunk on the train from London to Scotland one day and met up with North Sea oil pocket workers who made fun of my clothes. I couldn't really understand them, but apparently if you wear plaid you're a lumberjack. I went to Hong Kong, which was really nice — great sunsets, you can thank the pollution for that. It was my first time in a non-Western country, though Hong Kong is about as Western as it gets over there. They air condition outside, too; they leave the doors open and let the air blow out into the streets. The best part was going by myself and being able to stay anywhere I wanted. One night I stayed at a place on the side of a mountain in a guest house in Switzerland. It was so rural that they'd never seen an American before. They sat down with me outside and just wanted to hear me talk — probably to listen to my horrible Swiss-German, but still. The back wall was on a cliff, so it was actually just rock.

Fantasies enliven reality

Everyone has them. Seriously. Some people are undoubtedly more in touch with them, more comfortable or more outspoken, while others are more cautious, guarded or even disinterested. But, really, we all have sexual thoughts. And sexual thoughts can turn into sexual fantasies, and sexual fantasies can certainly be a lot of fun.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS



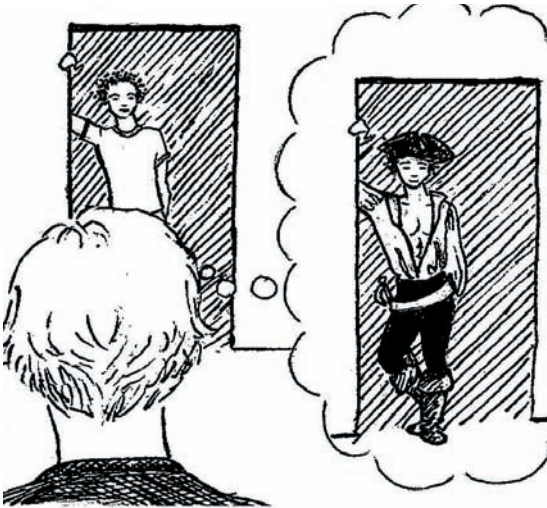
Kate Prengaman

Fantasies come in all shapes and sizes. Some are brief, passing thoughts in class or while walking around campus, some are involved and detailed, requiring some time and focus to appreciate. Some stem from watching porn or reading the juicy parts of a romance novel; others are solely products of the imagination. It's important to remember that not all of the fantasies we have are things that we'd like to actually have happen. Like that one about being kidnapped by a dashing pirate and then making love on the high seas after he rips off your bodice? Or the one when you're having a wild night of passion with your ex-girlfriend that you haven't talked to in a year? Or the one when you and your significant other invite that really hot mutual friend to join you in a ménage-à-trois? It's fun to think about, it gets you excited and turned on, but you'd never want to do it for real. It's perfectly normal to have these "imagination-only" fantasies.

For many people, pornography helps them connect to these types of fantasies that they enjoy but would never want in real life. Most mentally stable adults are aware that porn isn't real or intended to be a reflection of reality — it is supposed to serve a fantasy purpose. Viewed that way, it should take away the degrading and objectifying concerns that many people have against porn. As long as it's a fantasy that the viewer enjoys — without expecting it to be reflected in her or his reality — they should be free to enjoy watching whatever legal activity gets them off.

On the other hand, there are plenty of fantasies that we'd secretly love to experience in reality as well as in our imagination. It can be simple things like an interest in trying out a pair of handcuffs or lacy lingerie. Or it can be complicated, like having your partner buy a little red elf outfit from Victoria's Secret and making her only call you Santa for the evening. Sometimes, it's healthy and fun to put a fantasy into action, and it can be exciting to bring a little bit of your imagination to life.

So, how do you turn a fantasy into reality? It can be a little intimidating at first to tell your partner



some of the secret things you think about that excite you. Just remember that they probably have plenty of their own secret fantasies, and that you shouldn't be ashamed of yours. If you're in a sexual relationship with another person who really enjoys getting you off (the best kind of person to be in a sexual relationship with, for the record), then you can bet they'll be pretty interested to hear about what you think about trying.

For some, it might be exciting enough just to talk about a fantasy during foreplay — or even more exciting than actually doing it. If you're going with this "storytelling" route, make sure you include every vivid detail you possibly can. Obviously, don't tell your boyfriend about how you occasionally masturbate while thinking about his roommate, but tell him the scandalous scenario in which you enjoy tying him up and being totally in charge for an afternoon. Even if you're only planning on following up the story with "regular sex," your moods will be extra charged from the hot conversational foreplay.

Or, after you tell your partner a favorite fantasy, you might discover that they share it. Or even if they don't, they might be intrigued or adventurous enough to want to give it a try. Obviously, don't push them to do something they aren't really interested in doing, but it's all right to encourage a little experimentation. Maybe you've never dreamed of a golden shower, but you learn that your partner really likes the idea. If you're not totally grossed out, why not go for it? You never know what sort of fantasy your partner might be willing to fulfill with you, if trading is your plan.

Don't discount sexual fantasies as silly and inconsequential. Whether you share them or enjoy them in private, are eager to turn them into a reality or keep them in fantasyland, embracing them can be a powerful way to get more in touch with your sex life. You never know what dreams might come true if you're brave enough to let them.

Kate Prengaman is the sex columnist for The Flat Hat. She likes to use her imagination.

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I thought revealing your identity would keep you out of my hair—

I was trying to be a gentleman. Oh well.

Wait! I've got a question!

Wait, why won't you tell us your evil plan? Not proud of it?

Actually, I've been dying to reveal it to someone other than Chunky.

Chunky! My Chinchilla

Yes, sir.

Get out the chart.

The Renaissance League seeks to bring in a golden age. We seek to create a perfectly efficient world. You see, if you keep supply-

Can you just cut the Economics lesson and kill me now, you evil, evil man?

Yeah, really.


Hey, it gets better! The next chart has a pie graph!


Next: Being thorough


Heroman


By Thomas Baumgardner


Horoscopes


Taurus: April 20 - May 20
 Despite your dejected state, you should realize that without pain, joy would not exist. So please, do not complain when a friend unexpectedly socks you in the face.


Gemini: May 21 - June 21
 Expecting change in your life can quell anxiety, especially a change in scenery. Don't stress over the idyllic campus and get used to your cell block.


Cancer: June 22 - July 22
 Diversify your bonds. Try putting your eggs in more than one basket, because as the old adage goes, the more baskets the merrier.


Leo: July 23 - Aug. 22
 Take care of all of your minor obligations this week, that way you can face the major ones head on, like the chlamydia you contracted yesterday.


Virgo: Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
 It's time to buckle down and get some work done, whether that means studying for a test, completing an application or getting high and watching "The Matrix."


Libra: Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
 Danger is your middle name, and taking risks is what attracts people to you; however, the lack of deodorant is what keeps people away.


Scorpio: Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
 A 65-year-old retired curling champion will teach you the high art of sweeping this week, and you will laugh at how stupid his game is.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 - Dec. 21
 You will need to refinance all of your bonds and money-making schemes, which means you will have to con twice as many people this week.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 - Jan. 19
 Setting goals is the key to becoming a young, successful entrepreneur, especially when one of the goals is throwing your opponents into the Arctic Ocean.

Aquarius: Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
 Keep your friends honest this week and let them know they do not have to impress you. A dead fish under the pillow always brings out honesty.

Pisces: Feb. 19 - March 20
 You feel as though you have finally found your life's purpose this week, but others do not see the great purpose behind beating Zelda II for Nintendo.

Aries: March 21 - April 19
 The stars will throw a lightning bolt of inspiration your way this week, and it's your call whether you accept our divine intervention.

REVIEWS

LaBeouf stars in eerie ‘Disturbia’

By SARAH PUCKETT
THE FLAT HAT

“Disturbia,” starring former Disney channel goof Shia LaBeouf (“Holes”), will make you laugh as much as it will make you scream. The story, based roughly on Alfred Hitchcock’s “Rear Window,” centers on LaBeouf’s character, Kale, spying on the potential murderer next door while he’s under house arrest.

The reason Kale is stuck at home is that he was sentenced to three months house arrest after punching his Spanish teacher. This dramatic shift in his character opposes that of the opening

scene, a tender father-son fishing trip that would fool anyone into thinking they had mistakenly wandered into a G-rated movie. The next scene, however, shows his father’s death, which is (you guessed it) disturbing.

Kale must suffer the consequences for punching his teacher, so while he’s under house arrest, he entertains himself with humorous antics. From building towers of Twinkies to eating spoonfuls of peanut butter dipped in chocolate to stomping on a flaming bag of crap left by neighborhood kids, Kale proves to be foolish but loveable, much like LaBeouf’s character, Louis Stevens, on Disney Channel’s “Even Stevens.” But LaBeouf

has certainly grown up. His slapstick acting still makes for delightful, hearty laughs, yet his character’s grieving side taps into our sympathy. Kale’s personality and the story are so developed that early in the film it’s apparent that this is more than just a horror flick.

Aside from the untimely death of Kale’s father, the film shows very few signs of being a thriller until well into it. Since he’s under house arrest, Kale’s entertainment of choice is spying on the neighbors — especially the hot girl next door, Ashley, played by Sarah Roemer (“The Grudge 2”), who’s just too sexy and cool to be real. The story spends more time on the romance than on the suspicious neighbor, Mr. Turner, portrayed by David Morse (“Proof of Life”). His appearances up to that point have been spaced out and only questionably creepy, which isn’t quite what I would call suspense. The way he hits on Kale’s mom is plenty unsettling, but it’s not definitively scary.

The suspense part of the story becomes more than unsettling the night Kale and Ashley make out for the first time. As blood spatters on windows in the house next door, they’re horizontal on the bed. The murderer is secondary in their minds, just as he was secondary in the plot. But from here, the plot accelerates exponentially. From that point to the end, brace yourself for a roller coaster ride of perfectly timed surprises, echoes of “Silence of the Lambs” and the “Here’s Johnny!” scene from “The Shining,” as well as a few cringe-inducing gore moments.

Don’t worry, “Disturbia” is not in the same category as “Saw” or “The Hills Have Eyes.” The gore is there, but it’s economical, not the desensitizing stuff of slasher movies. There’s an actual story, quality actors in complex roles, warm fuzzy moments and lighthearted laughs. Even the scary scenes are more fast-paced fun than terrifying kill fests. For those who enjoy a plot, an adrenaline rush and a happy ending, or even those who just enjoy Shia LaBeouf, go see “Disturbia.” You may not be disturbed, but you won’t be disappointed.

★★★★☆



COURTESY PHOTO • INTERSCOPE

Reznor, NIN find niche

By CONOR MCKAY
FLAT HAT REVIEWS EDITOR

I can honestly say I have never been a huge fan of Trent Reznor’s brainchild, Nine Inch Nails, but that doesn’t mean I don’t respect him. I loved Johnny Cash’s rendition of the Nails song “Hurt” — Reznor’s pained lyrics are amazing and took on a whole new meaning when sung by the ailing Cash — but the original version is downright unlistenable. I am anxiously awaiting the release of the new Queens of the Stone Age album if not only to hear Reznor’s guest appearance vocally and lyrically, but the new Nine Inch Nails album, “Year Zero,” released this week, wasn’t even on my radar until after it came out, and only then because of numerous raving reviews. Like I said, while I respect the man’s talent, I have never been a fan of Nine Inch Nails’ “music.”

I have always equated Reznor’s work with angry, depressing, loud, grating, Marilyn Manson-style social commentary that merely pretends to be music. That isn’t to say I don’t see Reznor and Manson as absolute geniuses — in fact, quite the opposite is true. Any artist who can organize a mass musical rebellion against societal norms through painful music, both lyrically and in the music’s utter discordancy and chaos, must be a genius. Being able to make music that sounds like shit be enticing and powerful takes real skill — most just end up sounding like shit. Sure, some of their lyrics are true poetry if looked at on their own, but when set behind chainsaw bass, screeching guitars and synths and a style of singing that more closely resembles rhythmic growling, the words seem to lose their meaning. That is what I thought, anyways — until now.

“Year Zero,” Nine Inch Nails’ sixth studio album in its 18-year career, marks a turn in Reznor’s musical musings. That is to say, this is actually music. Sure, the album is still made of chainsaw bass, screeching guitars and synths and rhythmic growling, but for some reason it sounds more — for lack of a better word — musical. The songs on the album, unlike songs on previous Nails albums, actually sound like songs with melodies, harmonies and hooks that could easily be found in any rock album out there. The only difference here is that Reznor mixes the good the with the bad, making for melodious discordancy, if such a thing can exist, and in many ways, that gives the album a unique type of atypical beauty.

And yet, is there really that much of a difference between Reznor’s latest brand of organized chaos and that found on his previous five Nails albums? Perhaps, but I contest that our ears are learning to hear the order within the disarray and appreciate it for its perfection amid a soundscape of disorder. Nine Inch Nails has been producing electronic music for the better part of two decades, and it seems we have finally caught up to it. Think about the fact that when “The Eraser,” the solo album of masterfully electronic laptop music by Radiohead lead singer Thom Yorke, was released last year, it shot up to second on Billboard’s Top 200. An album of slow, depressing, brooding music — about the farthest thing from pop, rock and country that you can find — made it to the top of the charts. For a time

See **NAILS** page 10

‘Pathfinder’ lost in own blood and gore

By MOHAMMAD RAHMAN
FLAT HAT ONLINE EDITOR

What do you give a generation of moviegoers who have been accustomed to Spartans, hobbits and superheroes? Vikings, of course. These aren’t your grandparents’ Vikings, either. Forget Leif Erikson, all that guy ever did was discover Newfoundland. These Vikings are dressed in outlandish furs wearing helmets meant for beasts, equipped with dogs, horses and snowboards. Why go for historical accuracy? Director Marcus Nispel (“The Texas Chainsaw Massacre” remake) said it best when he explained that these Vikings “are just plain cooler looking.” With that kind of confidence in your project, it’s hard not to be enthused about the viewing experience.

When first seeing the trailer in theaters, it looked to be a nice little niche film that would be able to satisfy the gorehounds. Instead, the best shots in the trailer appear in the first minute of the opening scene. So what’s left of the movie?

The film stars Karl Urban, whose most accomplished role to date was that of a silent Russian in 2004’s “Bourne Supremacy.” Urban portrays a confused young man who was left by his Viking family for dead with American Indians. Many years later,

Urban is a nice, chiseled grown man with a peaceful life. However, his life of tranquility is interrupted with the arrival of his former people once again. His former amigos waste no time in doing what they do best: committing genocide. All of this happens within the first act, as the movie says to hell with any sort of development and gets right into the battle sequences. That said, this may have been a good idea considering that the minimal dialogue that was present was irritatingly wooden. Watching paint dry may have been a nice alternative to listening. Don’t believe me? Try this dialogue on for size: “If you can’t kill the bear, use the bear to kill it” (emphasis on the “it”).

The portrayal of the American Indians is about as stereotypical as it gets. The film would have you believe that spouting proverbs that make no sense, having no sense of military tactics and giving each other nonsensical names is the only thing American Indians are good for.

Warning: If you don’t know anything about Vikings, “Pathfinder” shouldn’t be one of your resources for your next paper. That is, unless you want to believe that Vikings were inhumane, psychotic, masochistic men who were a highly advanced group of people who wrote that book “Torturing

101.” But, then again, remember that these Vikings are so much “cooler” than the real ones.

If there’s one thing Nispel does know how to do, it is definitely how to handle his gore. The film’s greatest asset is its ability to dash out the violence by the hundreds — if only the violence made any sense. These Vikings seem to arrive on a whim to rape, kill, pillage and burn American Indian villages — but why?

Based on the graphic novel of

See **‘PATHFINDER’** page 10



COURTESY PHOTO • 20TH CENTURY FOX

Karl Urban stars as Ghost, an abandoned Viking raised by American Indians, in the new action flick “Pathfinder.”

The age in which music television wanes horribly un-musical

CRITICAL CONDITION



Genice Phillips

I was in my room flipping through channels the other day, and I ran across a commercial about a new reality show called “Living Lahaina,” which would be airing soon on MTV. All of a sudden, I started shouting obscenities at the TV screen, my boiling anger rising to the surface as my roommate desperately tried to calm me down. Not again. Not another dim-witted, high school drama-filled, “Laguna Beach” replay that’s replacing my music. Honestly, I’ve had it with defective reality shows that have engulfed music-oriented networks and have diverted them from spreading the importance of music in popular culture. The most I get now is a bunch of emo bands crying about cute puppies and Hilary Duff’s lack of vocal dexterity used as soundtracks for these reality shows.

Since 1981, music television has had a colossal impact on popular culture and the music industry. With the creation of MTV, music shifted from sound recordings to visual representations of these recordings called music videos. MTV showcased these videos,

playing them non-stop, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It became a popular marketing tool in the music industry and promoted various genres of music that helped turn nobodies into superstars.

A few years later, VH1, a spin-off channel from MTV, was launched to focus primarily on softer music genres, such as R&B, Top 40 and adult contemporary. BET, a network that started in 1980, has covered a wide range of programming specifically aimed at black audiences. In the past 20 years, BET has had programs consisting of music entertainment, particularly gospel, hip-hop and R&B.

Now, music television is less focused on music and its aesthetic values and more on commercial success, TV ratings and what sells at the moment. Each of these networks has completely erased its original concepts of music television and distanced themselves from music programming. Instead of having shows that are at least educational or socially and politically active, they contain empty-minded, generalized images of American society that range from blonde-haired dunces,

the angry black male and rich kids who bitch and moan to their parents because they can’t find the right outfit for their super sweet 16.

Just look at the numerous reality shows that have been dumped on these music networks. MTV, which currently aims its programs at teenage audiences, has shows such as “NEXT,” a dating show that has revolting contestants make half-witted remarks and say staged lines that make them look more foolish and unattractive than they already are. “The Real World,” which used to be a socially conscious reality show, touching on subjects of racism, religion and sexuality, has quickly turned with the notion that “sex sells,” having guys and girls who look like they just came from a modeling shoot discuss their sexual fiascos and late-night drunkenness that ends in roommate brawls.

BET, which is not mainly focused on music, has reality shows that give a poor representation of the black community. “College Hill,” a show that supposedly gives a positive, inside look at historically black colleges and universities, is basically a more

intense and louder “Real World,” just with black college students. (I would go on ranting about this channel, but there is not enough space in the paper, so I will refrain from doing so.) And let’s not forget VH1, which used to have shows such as “Behind the Music,” which had narrative biographies of successful musical artists and their role in popular culture. VH1 also had “VH1: Storytellers,” a show on which musicians performed live in a small, intimate setting, telling stories about the significance and meaning of music that they created. Instead, “Celebreality” is what VH1 is presenting on television, giving washed-up celebrities another five minutes of fame before they realize that they were never really that popular.

These networks have become a nuisance and are wasting my time. Music programs that catered to specific genres of music have vanished. They rarely play music videos, and when they do, it’s at a time when only insomniacs and some college students are

See **MTV** page 10



Singled Out
Queens of the Stone Age — “3’s & 7’s”
From the band’s forthcoming album “Era Vulgaris”

Josh Homme’s merry band of rotating musicians, set to release its fifth studio album, “Era Vulgaris,” May 12, streamed the CD’s first single “3’s & 7’s” on its website this week.

— compiled by Conor McKay

iTunes top 10 albums

1. *The Best Damn Thing* — **Avril Lavigne**
2. *Year Zero* — **Nine Inch Nails**
3. *Shock Value* — **Timbaland**
4. *Back to Black* — **Amy Winehouse**
5. *The Story* — **Brandi Carlile**
6. *Daughtry* — **Daughtry**
7. *Life in Cartoon Motion* — **Mika**
8. *Acoustic* — **Mat Kearney**
9. *Minutes to Midnight* — **Linkin Park**
10. *Some Hearts* — **Carrie Underwood**

HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP

Hilton checking into jail?

Everyone’s favorite do-nothing celebrity, Paris Hilton, is in trouble with the law — again. Ms. Simple Life has been ordered to appear in court for being pulled over February 27 while driving with a suspended license. The license was suspended and the star put on a 36-month probation for a reckless driving offense last September. Her new offense could put the hotel heiress in jail for up to 90 days. It looks like her new \$190,000 Bentley convertible won’t be getting much mileage any time soon.



“Dallas” in space

Victoria Principal, former star of “Dallas,” is one of the first people to book a ride on British billionaire and adventurer Richard Branson’s latest exploit — space tourism. Virgin Galactic hopes to send tourists to space by 2010 at the cost of \$200,000. Branson hopes to lower the price to \$75,000, making it more easily available. The trip will consist of several days of training to ensure passengers can withstand the extreme G-forces, followed by a two-and-a-half hour trip and a souvenir DVD.



Birkhead and Stern: BFFs

Larry Birkhead — Anna Nicole’s DNA-proven babydaddy — has proven at least someone has some class. After the seven-month custody battle between Birkhead and the child’s then guardian, Howard K. Stern over the custody of Anna Nicole’s daughter, Daniellyne, Birkhead couldn’t have been nicer about his former legal opponent. In an interview with OK! magazine, Birkhead gave Stern high praise for his great help in his transition to new father. The two are certain to be BFFs.



Kiss of death

At a recent anti-AIDS rally in New Delhi, India, actor Richard Gere decided to tip his hat to his 2005 movie “Shall We Dance?” by exuberantly kissing 31-year-old Bollywood star Shilpa Shetty while on stage. Although rally-goers laughed, video of the incident enraged Hindu purists, who detest such graphic forms of public affection. Effigies of both Gere and Shetty have been burned in the streets.

— compiled by Conor McKay and Alex Guillén

‘Pathfinder’ has little more than gore

‘PATHFINDER’ from page 9

The screenplay lacks any sort of cohesiveness — not even Gorilla Glue could piece this bad boy back together. With an incredibly short first act and a pointless third, the movie can only rely on the

second act, which consists of the senseless killing of American Indians, over and over again.

If only the movie took its cue from the title and actually had a path to follow, then maybe it would have had some sort of direction.

★☆☆☆☆

Reznor, Nine Inch Nails find new life

NAILS from page 9

it was the highest-selling album on the iTunes music store. Since when did the average listener spend his time listening to “laptop” music? Who ever even heard of laptop music before Yorke’s debut solo album?

The fact is, the world of music is changing, and that is in large part why “Year Zero” will sound surprisingly appealing to even average listeners. In fact, some of the songs could even make it on the radio or on MTV. “Survivalism,” a back-handed insult to American hypocrisy, is quick, catchy and rocking, complete with a fist-pumping chorus of featuring several overlays of Rexnor’s voice, creating the awesome effect of one man sounding like an unruly mob singing, “I got my propaganda / I got revisionism / I got my violence / In hi-def ultra-realism / All a part of this great nation / I got my fist / I got my prayer / I got survivalism.” “Zero Sum” takes a little time to get started, but when the slowly entering piano comes to play full chords

over some only slightly augmented drums, the relief it gives sounds like the most beautiful piano you’ve ever heard, turning what is a grating, painful mess into a sort of tainted beauty. Even the chorus feels like something you might sing at a campfire, arm in arm with your loved ones, even though the lyrics run, “Shame on us / Doomed from the start / May God have mercy on our dirty little hearts / Shame on us / For all we have done / And all we ever were / Just zeros and ones” — a rather unsettling view of humanity.

Reznor’s unique ability to produce music that is beautiful in its ugliness, what was once so hard to understand and so unappealing to many, has survived into a musical movement and age where its genius might finally be realized. Nine Inch Nails may never be wholly popular, but with such an eclectic mix of music finding its way onto the charts and into our iPods these days, perhaps Nine Inch Nails has found a niche in the new millennium.

★★★★☆

MTV from page 9

awake to watch. One could argue that there are other TV stations that play strictly music videos, such as mtvU and MTV2, but not everyone has access to these. Furthermore, if these networks were not bombarding

people with over-the-top, fabricated reality shows, there wouldn’t be so much criticism on music networks and their part in the progression of music in the media. Although music television has reached diverse audiences, having an enormous impact on the television industry

and facets of American culture, it forgot its essential component: the music.

Genice Phillips is a sophomore at the College. She admits that, while she dislikes music telivision reality shows in principle, she does thoroughly enjoy “Flavor of Love.”

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SPRING FOOTBALL

Three vie for starting quarterback position

QUARTERBACKS from page 12

will unfold itself.”

Potts understands the possibilities as well, but he is also mature enough to realize that each quarterback must step up and work to improve in his own way.

“I can’t compete against one guy, I’ve just got to compete against myself and try to be the best that I can every day,” Potts said. “I’d like to say ‘yeah, I’ll step up and be the guy,’ but I mean you never know because that’s not my decision to make.”

Archer’s foray into the quarterback position has been a successful one so far, as the former wide out has quickly adjusted to his new role on the team.

“I think it’s coming back to me,” Archer said. “I’m not completely pleased. There is definitely stuff I can

improve on. I’m definitely my toughest critic so I feel like there is always something I can do better.”

Because of each quarterback’s strong performances this spring, don’t expect Laycock to force the role of starter onto only one player. Last year the coach shuffled through Potts and Phillips often, and he is not ruling out the option again this season, if the results are successful.

“We’ve got to do what we’ve got to do in order to move the ball and get a chance to win,” Laycock said.

All three quarterbacks are determined to propel the Tribe to a winning season this year, as last year’s disappointing season has provided incentive to perform.

“The players on this team are extra motivated to play next season and to rebound from last year,” Phillips said. “We know we can do a lot better and we are excited to get the season started.”

Stoudemire to lead Suns past Cavs for NBA Finals victory

NBA from page 12

could be in for a bit of a test in the first round, however, as the seventh-seeded Los Angeles Lakers and eighth-seeded Golden State Warriors are more than capable of playing up to their competition. Both Dallas and Phoenix should advance, however, as should the San Antonio Spurs in the three seed.

The Spurs better hope they make quick work of the mediocre Denver Nuggets (how’s that Allen Iverson trade looking now?) so that they can rest up before taking on the fast-paced Suns. Don’t forget about the four vs. five match-up, however, as the surprising Utah Jazz host the Houston Rockets. I’m going to go with Houston in this one — McGrady has just been too good this season, even in Yao’s absence. In the second round, I expect the Rockets to push the Mavericks hard in the first couple of games, but eventually succumb to a Dallas squad too deep for the Rockets to handle.

While I’m reluctant to ever count the Spurs out of a series, I can’t see the Suns losing to San Antonio in their second round match-up. Not only are the Suns a fast break waiting to happen, but Amare Stoudemire is now once again capable of taking over a game in the half court after his remarkable comeback from injury.

This brings us to the Western Conference finals, a dream of a series between the Suns and the Mavericks. It’s really hard to pick a winner in this one, as both teams are capable of going on streaks during which they are unstoppable, and each has several game-changing performers in Leandro Barbosa, Raja Bell, Shawn Marion, Steve Nash and Stoudemire for the Suns and Devin Harris, Josh Howard, Dirk Nowitzki, Jerry Stackhouse and Jason Terry for the Mavericks.

In the end, though, I like the Suns. The demons of last year’s Finals collapse are apparently still dogging Nowitzki, as he has faltered at the end of several big games this season. Also, with Stoudemire back in the mix and their transition game thriving, the Suns can put up plenty of points even when their outside shooting is off. This series should go seven ultra-competitive games, with the Suns finally coming out on top.

NBA FINALS

The Suns will prove to be too much for the over-matched Cavaliers, running them ragged up and down the court. Stoudemire wins the MVP trophy as the Suns take the series in five.

Jeff Dooley is the sports editor for The Flat Hat. He'd like to apologize about the Clippers pick. And UCLA ... and the Bears ...

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LIVE NATION

STARR HILL PRESENTS

FROM THE SIDELINES

Suns, Cavs to star in 2007 NBA playoffs

A mere five and a half months since my prediction of a Clippers-Cavs NBA Finals, and let’s not forget my wise calls for a Bears Super Bowl victory and a UCLA national title, either, it’s playoffs time in the NBA, which means that it’s time for some more spot-on, can’t-miss predictions from yours truly.

EASTERN CONFERENCE
The bottom three seeds of the East — the New Jersey Nets, Washington Wizards and Orlando Magic — will all make quick exits. The

Wizards are a sad case, because with a healthy Gilbert Arenas and Caron Butler, they would have had a legitimate shot at making it to the Finals on the strength of their tremendous scoring ability.

The Chicago Bulls got the raw end of the deal this year, as they get stuck in the no. 5 seed and will battle the reigning NBA champion and fourth-seed Miami Heat, despite having a better record than both the Heat and the third-seeded Toronto Raptors. The second-seeded Cleveland Cavaliers will make quick work of the inexperienced Raptors in the second round, advancing to the conference finals. I expect the Heat to be too much for the Bulls to handle, with Shaquille O’Neal playing as well as he has in years. However, the top-seeded Pistons’ experience and balance will carry them past the Heat in the second round, thereby avenging last year’s loss in the conference finals. In a rematch of last season’s conference semifinals, the Cavs and Pistons will once again play a seven-game series, only this time with Cleveland besting Detroit, as LeBron James takes over at the end of games just when the Cavs need him to.

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Let’s be honest, this is the real NBA Finals. Even die-hard fans of other teams must be secretly praying for a matchup pitting the Dallas Mavericks and Phoenix Suns against each other. They each



Jeff Dooley

See NBA page 11

SPRING FOOTBALL

Quarterback carousel

Veterans Jake Phillips and Mike Potts and converted wideout R.J. Archer are all vying for the Tribe’s starting quarterback position

By Miles Hilder
Associate Sports Editor



Just how important is the quarterback position to the Tribe? Lang Campbell, ’05, led the College to an Atlantic Ten conference championship in 2004, averaging 285 yards per game passing and throwing for 30 touchdowns. Over the past two seasons, senior Mike Potts and junior Jake Phillips have taken over quarterbacking duties and have gone on to average 212 yards per game in 2005 and 2006, respectively, while the two have combined to toss only 35 touchdowns over the two-year stretch. Despite the most prolific College history, Brooks, one of the Tribe’s back-to-back losing seasons since Campbell’s departure, has suffered season after season and Phillips his fourth, the questions at quarterback still remain. Heading into Saturday’s Green-Gold scrimmage, which signifies the end of spring workouts, not only has neither quarterback emerged as Head Coach Jimmie Laycock’s choice to head the offense come August, but another player has entered the fray. Sophomore R.J. Archer, who materialized into one of the Tribe’s biggest receiving threats last season, has donned a red jersey this spring, testing his luck as a signal caller. The result is a Tribe offense that now sports three quarterbacks all capable of starting.

Irene Rojas • The Flat Hat

Senior Potts (above left) and junior Phillips (above right), along with sophomore Archer, are all competing for the starting quarterback position.

“It’s difficult in the spring to get the number of scrimmage or team type of situations to fully develop the quarterbacks and evaluate them,” Laycock said. “But right now, I couldn’t pick one of the three, but I’m not displeased with any of the three. I feel like all of them are doing well and are improving.”

In 2005, Potts began the season as the Tribe’s starter, but suffered some setbacks that caused Laycock to insert Phillips, whose play earned him the starting role to open the 2006 campaign. However, Phillips struggled last season, and Potts found himself once again starting games for the College. Yet because of problems throughout the offense, both were seeing extensive action under center by the end of the year, and the Tribe closed their disappointing season without a clear-cut starting quarterback.

Now fast forward to this spring, where Potts and Phillips continue to share snaps and Archer is proving he merits consideration at quarterback. Laycock and his staff are faced with the difficult task of choosing the starter, a dilemma with no clear answer in the immediate future.

“I don’t know [when I would name a starting quarterback]. I really don’t know,” Laycock said. “I would hope at least 10 days prior to the [Delaware] game that we are there. I’ve been there a few times before and you would like to get a starter as soon as possible, but I don’t want to set a date.”

While the uncertainty might bother some, Potts, Phillips and Archer all understand the importance of showing up each day motivated to work hard and to get better, both as a team and individually.

“We pretty much know we need to be more consistent,” Potts said. “On a day in and day out basis, we are working hard to focus on every single rep and be consistent every day in practice. It’s on us to step up and make that happen.”

Each has had a similar spring, at times looking extremely sharp and at times struggling with bad decisions. Regardless, all three have shown the talent necessary to lead the College next year.

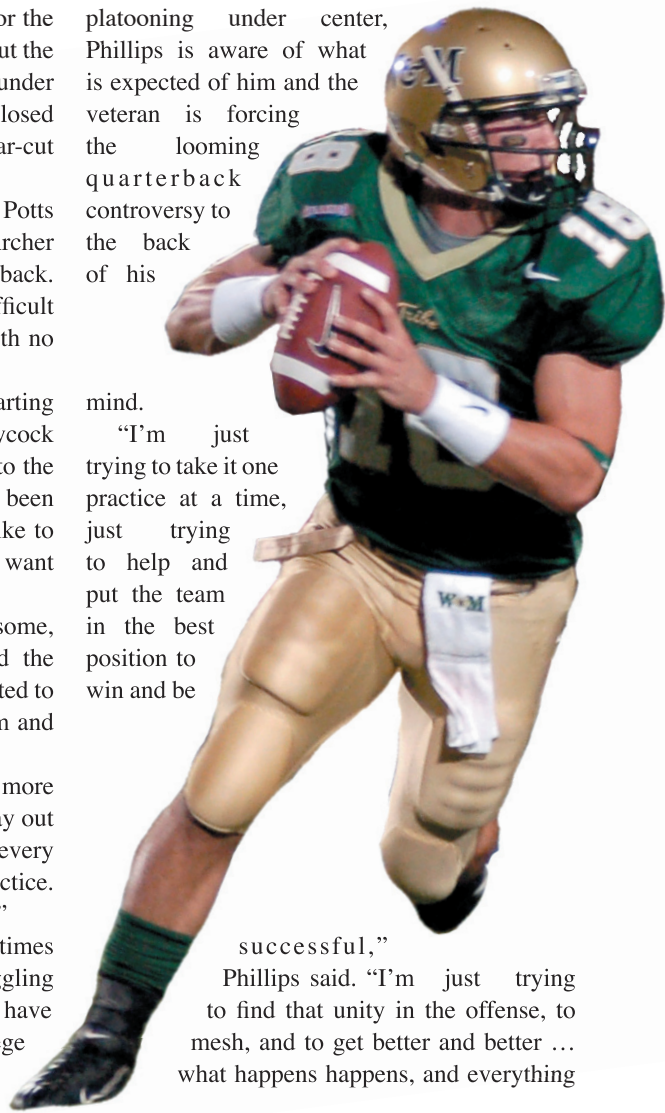
“I feel like all three of us could play,” Archer said. “It’s kind of a rare situation

to have a team where there are three quarterbacks that could be on the field.”

The onus will be on the quarterback even more this season, as all-conference assets Brooks, Cody Morris and Matt Trinkle have all exhausted their eligibility.

“All those guys were rocks on our offense, guys you could definitely count on,” Phillips said. “It is going to be tough to replace those guys, but right now we are excited because we have a lot of guys stepping up.”

Having spent two seasons platooning under center, Phillips is aware of what is expected of him and the veteran is forcing the looming quarterback controversy to the back of his



mind. “I’m just trying to take it one practice at a time, just trying to help and put the team in the best position to win and be

successful,” Phillips said. “I’m just trying to find that unity in the offense, to mesh, and to get better and better ... what happens happens, and everything

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Irene Rojas • The Flat Hat

Dominic Pagon (above) and Tribe tennis take on James Madison today at 4:30 p.m. in the CAA quarterfinals.



Alex Haglund • The Flat Hat

Senior Megan Moulton-Levy (above) is currently ranked sixth in the nation in singles play and first in doubles.

TENNIS: CAA TOURNAMENT PREVIEW

Men earn third seed

Team hopes to recreate ’05 CAA tournament success

By Heather Ireland
The Flat Hat

The men’s tennis team enters the Colonial Athletic Association Tournament with hopes of reliving the glory of their championship run from the 2005 season. Virginia Commonwealth University, the same team the College defeated for the title in 2005, returns to the CAA tournament as defending champion, top seed, and one of the four teams competing ranked nationally in the top 50.

The Tribe, currently ranked 36th in the nation, received the three-seed and a first round bye, setting up a quarterfinal match against James Madison University today at 4:30 p.m. at the Huntington Park Tennis Center in Newport News.

The Tribe’s season record of 15-10 has enabled them to hold a high ranking this season, but the College has also had cause to celebrate individual rankings within the

team. Senior Colin O’Brien and junior Alex Cojanu are the 20th-ranked doubles team in the nation, having ranked as high as 6th earlier in the year. Cojanu and freshman Keziel Juneau are also ranked in doubles, holding the no. 35 national ranking. This week, the duo earned their third CAA Doubles Team of the Week honors of the season. Cojanu continues to have a standout season in singles as well, as he holds the no. 97 ranking nationally.

The College’s 15 wins mark only the eighth season since 1977 that the Tribe has achieved the 15-win plateau. Seven of those seasons have come under current head coach Peter Daub. If the Tribe emerges victorious this weekend, it would give O’Brien two CAA titles during his collegiate athletic career.

The winner of the CAA Championship receives an automatic bid to play in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament.

2007 Men’s CAA Tournament

Today - Quarterfinals
#3 Tribe vs. #6 JMU
4:30 p.m.
Huntington Park Tennis Center - Newport News
*if the men win, they will meet the winner of ODU/ Delaware Saturday at 1 p.m.

2007 Women’s CAA Tournament

Today - Quarterfinals
#1 Tribe vs. #8 Towson
11:30 a.m.
Huntington Park Tennis Center - Newport News
*if the women win, they will meet the winner of Georgia State/UNCW Saturday at 10 a.m.

Women get top spot

Team carries in no. 13 rank nationally

By Kate Tedesco
The Flat Hat

Women’s tennis will compete in the Colonial Athletic Association tournament at the Huntington Park Tennis Center in Newport News, Va., which began yesterday.

The Tribe, who enter the tournament ranked 13th in the nation, will be the top seed as they pursue their 19th CAA championship. The College received a bye for the first round and will proceed to the quarterfinals, where they will meet eighth-seed Towson University today at 11:30 a.m. Towson advanced to the quarterfinals with a 4-1 victory over ninth-seeded Drexel University Thursday. The Tribe carries a perfect 2-0 conference record into the tournament, having defeated the Old Dominion University Monarchs 5-2 and defending CAA champion Virginia Commonwealth University 4-3.

The College will be out for revenge against the second-seeded Rams, who defeated the

Tribe 4-1 to take the CAA crown last year. VCU is currently ranked 26th in the nation. Despite last season’s setback, the Tribe has won the CAA tournament 18 of the last 21 years and has reached the finals every year the tournament has been run.

Senior Megan Moulton-Levy finishes the regular season ranked first in the nation in doubles with partner sophomore Katarina Zoricic and sixth nationally in singles. Zoricic stands 60th in the nation in singles. Freshman Ragini Acharya performed well in her first season with the Tribe, and closes out the season ranked 120th nationally.

The College closes the regular season with an 18-2 record and ranked in the national top 20 for the 10th straight week. The Tribe also captured the final two CAA weekly awards, as Moulton-Levy earned both Singles and Doubles Player of the Week honors.

The winner of the tournament will gain an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, beginning April 25th.